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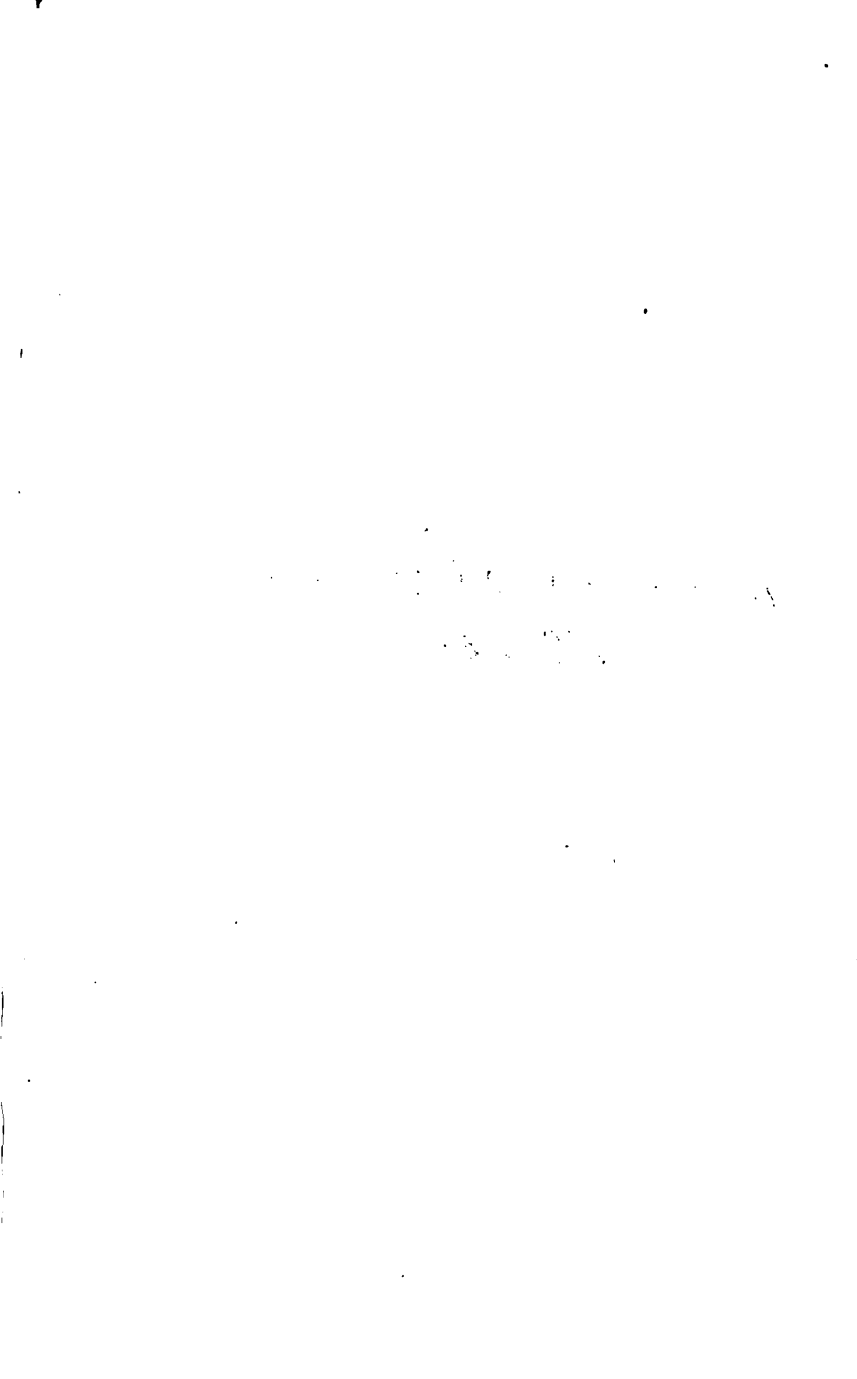
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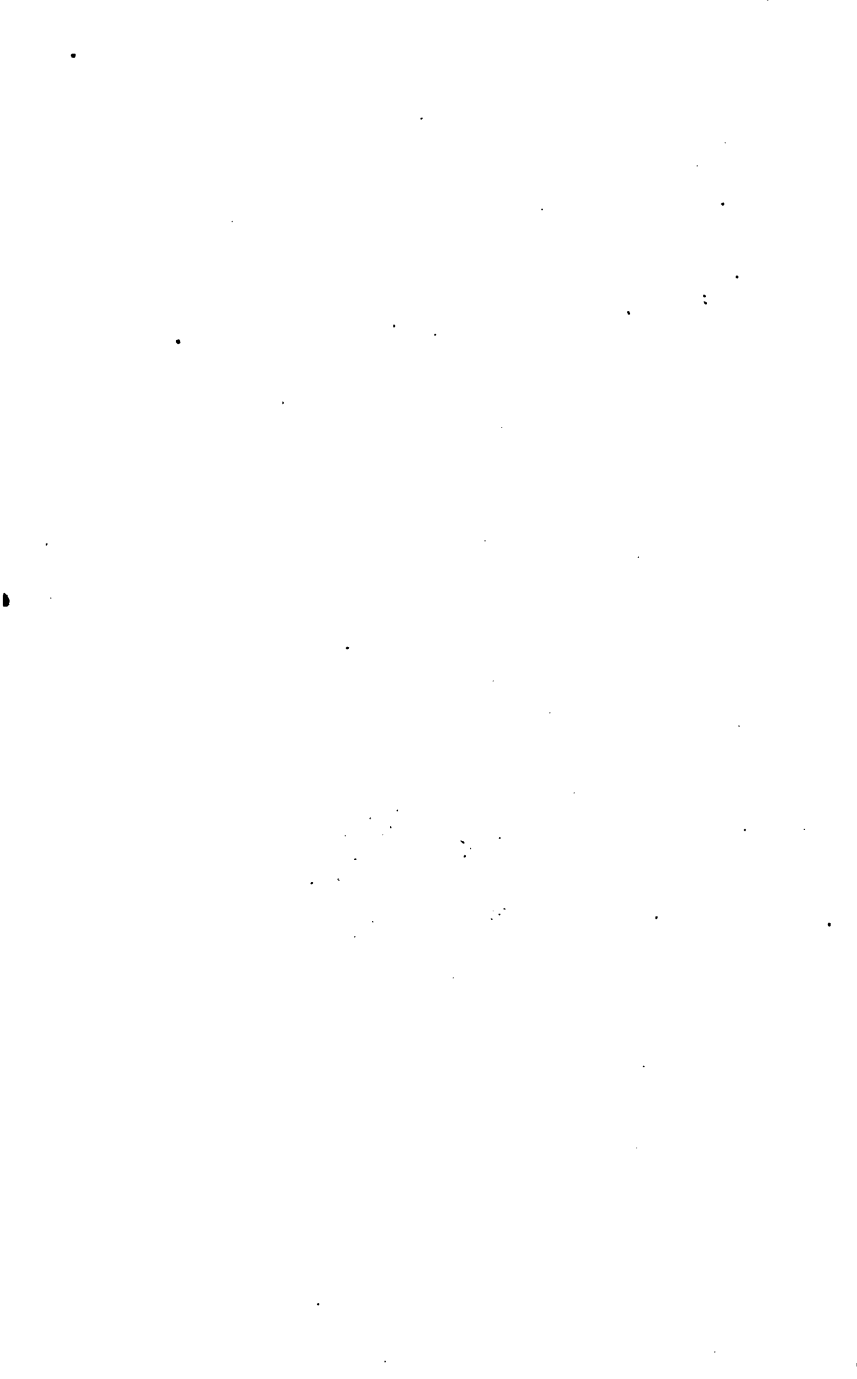
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HOME SKETCHES,
ON
BOTH SIDES OF THE CHANNEL.

BEING
A DIARY

BY THOMAS LACY.



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PREFACE.

THE year 1845, so remarkable for enterprise and public spirit, and so prolific in railway projects, witnessed a speculation little inferior, in point of extent, to anything of the kind to which that memorable year gave rise ; namely, the Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow, and Dublin Railway scheme. This, I have no doubt, will be long remembered by many of the speculators who, allowing themselves to be borne away by the then prevailing mania, became shareholders in that vast, but, as it has since proved, impracticable undertaking. This line was projected by Mr. Brunel, whose high character as an engineer was instrumental in inducing persons, the highest in rank and station, to become its promoters and directors ; amongst whom may be mentioned the honoured names of the Earl of Courtown and Sir Thomas Esmonde, Baronet. The directors of the English Great Western and South Wales Companies gave to it their countenance and support, while many noblemen and gentlemen, both in England and in this country, followed their example ; including the present Earl of Besborough. Starting under such auspices, and having employed, as their secretary, Mr. Muggeridge, a gentleman of experience, of elegant

manners, easy address, and consummate tact, the scheme soon became popular, and shares were sought for with eagerness and avidity. However, an opposition soon displayed itself. John Edward Redmond, Esq., who was then in connection with the Great Southern and Western Railway, and who was anxious to carry an extension of that line from Carlow to Wexford, on finding that the promoters of the Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow and Dublin Railway, (or, as it was familiarly termed, the three W's,) had made the line from Wexford to Carlow a part of their scheme, opposed their obtaining a bill conferring on them such power, and hence a fierce and expensive opposition commenced, which involved a serious pecuniary loss. In the year 1846, notwithstanding the opposition, the Three W's Company obtained their bill; an arrangement having been entered into between them and the Great South-Western directors, whereby the Carlow Company obtained the right of extending a branch of their line to Scarawalsh, in the county of Wexford; while the Three W's had power over that part of the line which lay between Scarawalsh and the sea-shore beyond the town of Wexford. The great expense incurred by the directors in obtaining the act of parliament empowering them to carry out their project, was very discouraging. This, followed soon after by the universal panic consequent upon the extensive failure of the potato crop, so prostrated every interest, that a reactionary movement soon set in, whereby railway shares became a drug in the market, and, in a short time, were quite as unpopular as they had previously been the contrary. The result at present is, that Wexford is likely to be, for years, without railroad accom-

modation ; both companies having succeeded in obtaining short acts of parliament, releasing them from their liability to extend their lines to Wexford, as originally intended.

The project, contemplated by the Three W's Company, if it were possible to be carried into effect, was well calculated to fix the attention of the people of the British empire, as its promoters flattered themselves that, when completed, the cities of London and Dublin should be brought within thirteen hours of each other. The intended line from London to Fishguard, in South Wales, was to be met by a powerful and fast-sailing steamer, which in a few hours could land her passengers on the coast of Wexford, where the railway should again take them up, and run on to the junction at Scarawalsh, at which place one line was to branch off to the city of Dublin, passing by Gorey, Arklow, and the Vale of Avoca, to Wicklow, Bray, and Kingstown ; while another branch should run by New Ross to Waterford, and fall in with the Waterford and Limerick line ; and a third branch should proceed to Carlow, and connect itself with the Great South Western ; thus affording a facility of communication between all parts of Ireland and England, by the shortest possible sea-passage. George Little, Esq., was appointed one of the solicitors for this great project, and I was engaged by him as one of his assistants in taking references along the line, and also in serving notices on the owners, lessees, and occupiers of property, whose holdings might be interfered with by the intended railway. In my capacity as such assistant, it became necessary that I should, with the other persons employed, proceed to Dublin to make the proper affidavits

before one of her Majesty's judges, in conformity with the standing orders of the Houses of Parliament. On a subsequent occasion it became necessary that we should proceed to London, for the purpose of giving evidence before the committees of both Houses, in reference to certain preliminaries preparatory to the obtainment of the bill, authorising the said undertaking. Business, rather of a private than of a public nature, rendered it expedient that I should pay another visit to London in the summer of 1851. In each of my journeys, as well as during my sojourn in Dublin and London, and also in a tour which I made through a considerable portion of the south of Ireland, in the autumn of 1850, I have been induced to take notes of such matters as to me seemed worthy of observation and attention; and of these, in deference to kind suggestions, I have consented to make a transcript with a view to their publication; together with such other observations as I have deemed it necessary to make, in reference to some prominent objects in our own vicinity. In hasty sketches and random descriptions of this character, it is very difficult for even a practised and experienced writer to throw such a degree of interest into his details, as to render them worthy of the reader's attention; for, although the form of expression is constantly varying, still, owing to the recurring incidents, it is next to an impossibility to avoid repetition and tautology.

It was by no means my intention, when taking these notes, to give them publicity, nor should I have the temerity to do so now, were it not for the encouragement I have received from a few kind, but I fear, too partial friends. A

tourist, engaged as I have been, in travelling without the intention of making due preparation for coming fairly before the public, must labour under considerable disadvantage. Under such circumstances, I have only to trust to the kindness of those, who constitute the body of my subscribers, for that generous consideration which, I hope, will be extended to this, my maiden effort. During my progress I have, generally speaking, looked upon the sunny side of the picture; and, therefore, while endeavouring to describe the rich and interesting scenes which the great wealth and refinement of England exhibit, and the natural fertility and unrivalled beauty which our own dear and lovely land presents, it may be considered that I have not been sufficiently careful to look beneath the surface, and to venture on a portrayal of the state of the people, as well as the appearance of the country. To those who may be disposed to look upon my journal in this light, I have only to offer, as my excuse, the fact already mentioned, that originally it was not my intention to submit my notes to the public. I certainly cannot plead exemption on the score of not having sufficient material whereon to found a narrative of an absorbingly interesting character. Alas! the country is teeming with incidents of a melancholy and startling nature, and those who are disposed to employ themselves on subjects of this description will be at no loss for sufficient data. These may be found in the altered state of the once-cheerful homestead, where the merry-ringing laugh of happy childhood, and the jocund, hearty sounds of more mature age, were wont to be heard; but alas! the natal cottage, beneath the roof-tree of which happiness and comfort were once

enjoyed, in many instances has ceased to exist, and is now a desolate and shapeless ruin; many of the inmates having found a home in distant lands, through the medium of the crowded emigrant ship; while others have sought shelter in the equally crowded poor-house; or perhaps, may have found repose in coffinless graves. However, I have, as I conceive, very properly, left to wiser heads and abler pens the melancholy task of detailing the woes that afflict our poor country, and to trace the sad effects which we have all witnessed, to their real causes. What I have here mentioned, and the records of the "Encumbered Estates Court," may enable a clever and impartial writer to draw a faithful picture of the true state of the country. Many of my friends entertain the opinion that the matter contained in this journal would be of some value to inexperienced persons visiting England, and especially the city of London; while to tourists coming from England to visit this country it would be of considerable service.

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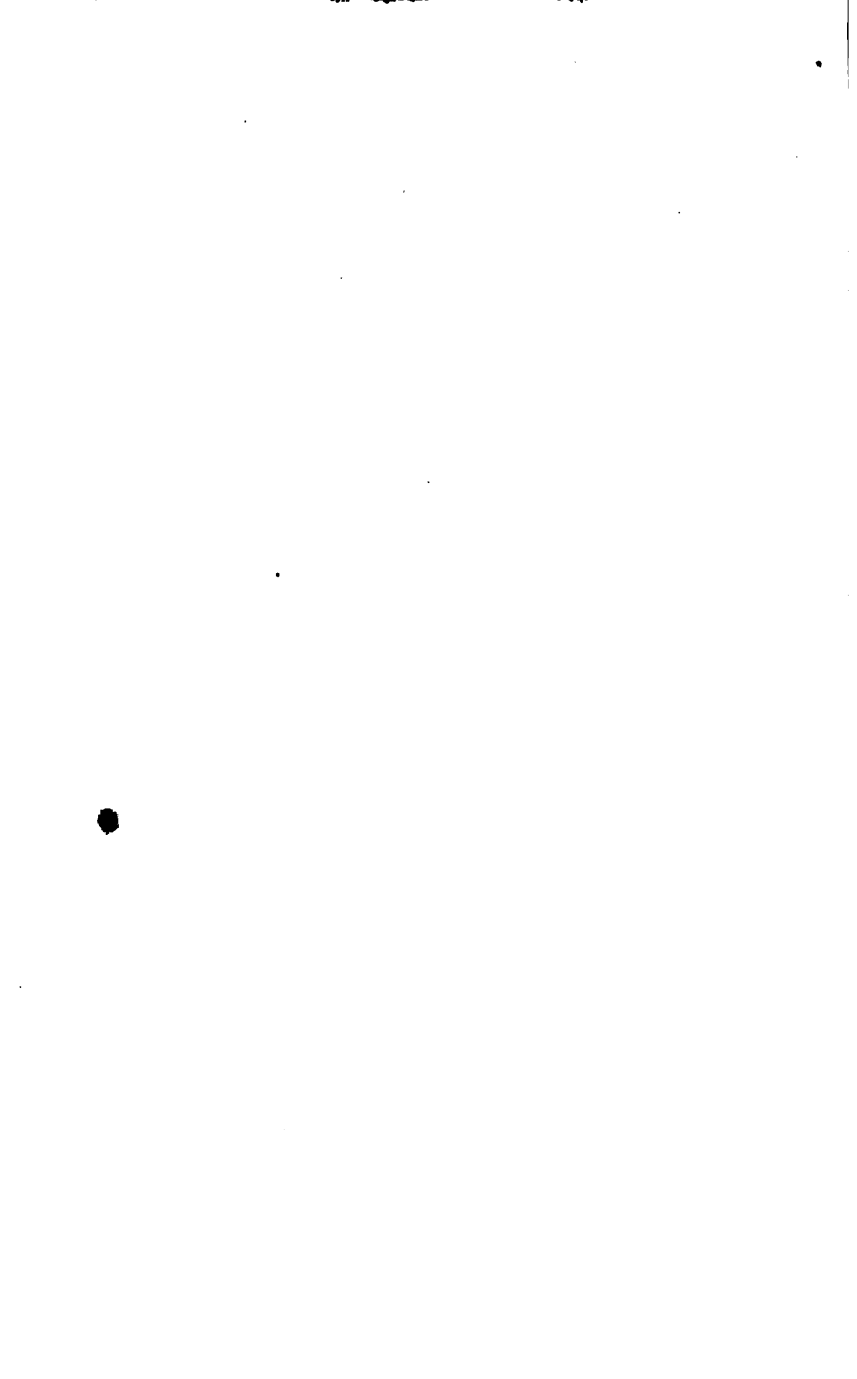
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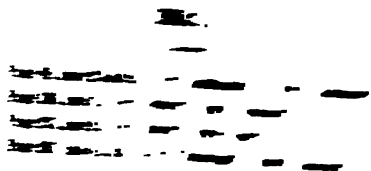
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HOME SKETCHES.



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HOME SKETCHES.

CHAPTER I.

THREE W.'S RAILWAY.

ON the 17th of November 1844, several gentlemen, including the author of these sketches, belonging to the staff of the Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow, and Dublin Railway, were directed by George Little, Esq., to proceed to Carlow, for the purpose of taking orders from Mr. Murray, who was the engineer in chief under Mr. Brunel, for laying down the line of the said railway.

We arrived at Whitmore's Hotel, which is called the Club House, and which was the rendezvous of the engineers, at nine o'clock on the morning of the 18th; and having taken our instructions, we proceeded to our several destinations. Having been appointed to the southern end of the line, I started by the three o'clock coach for Waterford. On this occasion chance gave me, as a travelling companion, a very intelligent and amiable person, a native of Carlow, with whom I commenced a friendship, which has lasted ever since, and which I trust will long continue to exist. I arrived in Waterford about ten o'clock, and proceeded, according to my instructions, to the Commercial Buildings Hotel, which is kept by Mr. Dobbyn, and is a first-rate house. At an early hour the next morning I commenced

operations, having in the first instance procured an intelligent person to serve as a guide through the line of country where my duty lay, being through that part of the county of Kilkenny, which intervenes between the city of Waterford, and the town of New Ross. Aided by my map, and assisted by my guide, I had but little difficulty in performing my prescribed duty, which was that of numbering on the map each house, field or other enclosure, which might be affected by the projected line, or which lay within one hundred yards on each side of it, this being the extent of the lines of deviation. A further duty devolved upon me which was that of ascertaining, from the persons in occupation, who were the lessees, and also who were the owners in fee of these holdings respectively.

Thus it will be perceived that I was necessarily brought into contact with the whole of the occupiers; and as the people in general are much wedded to the land, it required, in many instances, some plausibility and address, to reconcile them to the idea of having a portion of their holdings taken from them for the purposes contemplated by the promoters of the bill. The Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, the present Roman Catholic Bishop of Ossory, who was then the parish priest of the district, was favourably disposed towards the undertaking. He sent to request me to call upon him, that he might be made acquainted with the direction which the line was to take.

His enlightenment enabled him to see and to understand, the advantages that should be conferred on the people under his care, by the execution of this extensive project. I had also interviews with Mr. Power of Snow-hill, Mr. Power of Bellevue, Mr. Sherlock of Gillespie House, Mr. Strange of Aylwardstown, Sir Benjamin Morris Wall, and his brother Captain Morris, and also with Mr. Pope, Major Gahan, Mr. Hackett of Mount Prospect, Mr. Roberts, agent to Mr. Congreve of Mount Congreve, and with several other persons of respectability, who were all well affected towards this great undertaking. I found the occupiers in general kind and obliging, and willing to afford

every information. They are very industrious and the farms along the line were well cultivated; their principal food, at this time, was the potato, of the kind called "Lumper," a white and rather a soft description of this favourite vegetable. Milk was then rather scarce amongst them, and salt herrings seemed to be very much in use, at least at the dinner meal. The Irish language is very generally spoken in this part of the county of Kilkenny. I need not say that it was a source of regret to me, that I could neither speak nor even understand a single word of my native tongue. In fact you might as well expect from a person born in the heart of London a knowledge of the Irish language, as from a native of the town of Wexford: we may very properly, indeed, be called "Anglo-Saxons." One day, while engaged in my field duty, I was exposed to a good deal of rain, and as I was aware that the greatest perseverance and industry were expected at the hands of all persons employed in the exercise of that duty, I felt bound, regardless of the state of the weather, to proceed, and the consequence was, that I imbibed a good deal of damp, notwithstanding the protection of an Indian rubber coat, which on this occasion, I found was by no means water-proof. However, while I was engaged in walking through fields, and crossing fences, I did not much mind the damp, but when, at the close of evening, I mounted the car to return to my quarters, I, at once, found that I was exposed to some danger. While thus nervously apprehensive of serious consequences, I had to call at the house of Miss Coady, who was the lessee of some of the property on which I had taken reference, to inquire under whom she held. On my arrival at her house, which is situated in the parish of Rathpatrick, she very kindly invited me to enter, and partake of some refreshment, which I felt obliged to decline as my clothes were damp, and I was naturally anxious to reach my hotel, in order that I might change them.

Whereupon she requested me to wait a moment, and that she would send a person to me who would answer my questions;

and in a few seconds a gentleman appeared who pressed me to walk in, when all the information I required would willingly be afforded me. To him I offered the same excuse which I made to the lady, but I found that he was not to be so easily satisfied. To my apology regarding the state of my clothes, his answer was, that there was an excellent fire in the kitchen, at which they could be dried, and in the mean time he himself, would lend me a coat. My every objection being thus removed, I entered the house, and, having removed my coat, which I replaced by one of his, he showed me to the drawing-room, where I found Miss Coady, who introduced me to my good Samaritan, who, I found, was the Rev. Mr. Murphy, one of the curates of the Rev. Dr. Walsh; and who then introduced me to another clergyman, the Rev. Mr. O'Shea, as his brother curate. The reverend gentlemen held a "station" on this day at the house of Miss Coady. The great extent of the Parish rendered this the more necessary, as portions of it are far distant from the Chapels. Here many of the families in the neighbourhood enjoyed the benefit of the priests' presence by attending at confession, and receiving such other spiritual instructions as might be considered necessary.

Having partaken of Miss Coady's hospitality, and spent a very pleasant hour or so with her and her guests, during which time I explained to them the nature of my business in their part of the country; and having received a warm invitation to call on the Rev. Mr. Murphy when I should reach his neighbourhood, I took my leave much improved by the well-timed kindness and hospitality of this amiable lady and her reverend friends. On Saturday evening, my business being finished in the neighbourhood of Waterford, I proceeded to Ross, where I met Benjamin Allen, Esq., one of the solicitors acting under Mr. Little, to whom I reported progress. My starting point on the Monday morning following being in the neighbourhood of Glenmore, quite adjacent to the residence of the Rev. Mr. Murphy, I made up my mind to run over to him on Sunday, and to hear mass at his chapel;

and hoped, through his influence, to obtain a lodging for the night in his neighbourhood, that I might be near my work on the ensuing morning. Having partaken of an early breakfast, I went to the Friary Chapel in Ross, where I heard mass, fearing that I might by possibility miss the proper time for its celebration in the country. At half-past ten o'clock I set out for Glenmore, situated half-way between Waterford and Ross, where I arrived in full time for divine service. The mass was celebrated by Father Walsh, who was also a curate in this extensive parish, and who resided in the same house with my reverend friend, Father Murphy. After mass the reverend gentleman delivered a very fine sermon. The congregation was large; and, for a rural district, respectable; while their conduct during divine service and on their return to their homes proved that the religious teaching and care bestowed upon them were not without their proper effect. Having noticed the chapel and the church-yard, nicely situated on an acclivity that overhangs the village and the glen, and which are seen to great advantage from the coach-road, I went to the house of that excellent clergyman from whom I received the invitation. On reaching the house, instead of going round by the ordinary entrance, I passed through a nice garden, and thence by a neat door, the upper half of which was of glass, and which led into a small but well-furnished parlour. I, at once, turned the brass handle which raised the latch, and, without ceremony, entered; but my temerity was amply punished by the shock I received when I found myself in the presence of two elegant ladies and two gentlemen, one of whom when I, in some measure, recovered from my bewilderment, I found to be Father Walsh, the clergyman who had officiated at the chapel but a short time before. By a vigorous effort I so far recovered my self-possession as to be able to apologise for my apparent rudeness and precipitancy, and stated that I expected to find the Rev. Mr. Murphy.

Father Walsh, seeing my embarrassment, smilingly said that

I was expected by the Rev. Mr. Murphy, who requested him to say that he was obliged to attend at a distant chapel, but would soon return. He requested me to be seated, and invited me to take a biscuit and wine, and said that my reverend friend would be home in time for dinner. The other gentleman was a respectable man of business from the city of Waterford, whom I had met some years before in Tramore. One of the ladies was his wife, and the other her sister, both very accomplished and lady-like persons: they came out, by appointment, to dine with Father Murphy. In such society the time passed very agreeably. The Rev. Mr. Murphy returned in due time, and met me with that unmistakable kindness which is the genuine characteristic of the Irish gentleman. He was indeed a splendid man, alas! that, while speaking of him, I should be obliged to use the term "was," for he is now no more! In about a year from the time I paid this visit he died, like many of the order to which he belonged, and of which he was an honour and an ornament, the victim of his untiring zeal and devotedness to the duties of his sacred office. Yes; he was indeed a splendid man: he was about forty-five years of age, five feet ten inches in height, of a fine square figure, with a magnificent Roman face, and hair as glossy and as black as the raven's wing. Being informed of my surprise and alarm when I so uncereemoniously entered the parlour he felt greatly amused. Dinner was served up at five o'clock, and was of excellent quality. The admirable tact and ready wit of our host was abundantly shown forth in the course of the evening; the conversation under his direction took a lively turn, into which the Rev. Mr. Walsh freely entered, and in which the Waterford ladies took a part and appeared to great advantage; it was, indeed, a happy and a joyous evening. At about ten o'clock our little party broke up, and we parted apparently well pleased with each other. A bed was prepared for me in the house: before I retired Father Murphy informed me that he and Father Walsh should start at five o'clock in the morning, having to proceed to some distance

on business of a spiritual nature : he requested me to repose until my usual hour, when breakfast would be prepared for me by the servant. However, as it was desirable that I should be on the ground where my business lay at as early an hour as I would have light to perform my work, I also arose at the hour specified, and took my farewell of the reverend gentlemen. Alas ! it is painful, even now, to think that as far as the good Father Murphy was concerned it should have been a last adieu. As Roman Catholic clergymen who have to celebrate mass never break their fast until after the discharge of that sacred duty, I had to breakfast alone, after which, accompanied by the servant man, I proceeded to the house of Mr. Phelan, of Mullinahone, of whom I had some questions to ask relative to property belonging to him, which was to have been intersected by the line. I then proceeded to the point at which my day's work was to commence. I arrived at eight o'clock, and there I was obliged to remain until a heavy fog, which hung over that part of the country, cleared off. As I entered the parish of Rosbercon I fell in with Mr. Eben Allen, with whom I returned to Ross, where Mr. Pigott, another of our staff, was awaiting our arrival. Having packed up our papers and posted them, directed to Mr. Little's office in Dublin, we dined at Mr. Shanahan's hotel, where I remained for the night, and returned to Wexford by the early coach next morning.

Notwithstanding the great exertions which were made by all persons connected with this undertaking, the necessary preliminaries were not so far complied with as to enable the parliamentary agent to bring the matter before the Standing Orders Committee. A month's extension of time was prayed for ; and, under the circumstances, was conceded. This made the time for lodging the plans and reference books the last day of December, instead of the last day of November. Although this indulgence was obtained, such was the extent of the line that it was found impossible to be in a position to go before the Committee on the Standing Orders with effect, and hence the necessity of

postponing the introduction of the bill until the next session of parliament. In the month of November, 1845, the several persons employed were obliged to go over the same ground again; and, consequently, I was directed to proceed to Waterford as before. Having completed the references, it then became necessary to serve the notices on the several owners, lessees, and occupiers. In the exercise of this duty I was engaged in Gorey, Ferns, Enniscorthy, Waterford, Ross, and Wexford. We were also instructed to request a letter of assent, dissent, or neutrality from each person, and, with very few exceptions, obtained their assent in favour of the undertaking. I was subsequently ordered to Waterford to obtain signatures to petitions to both houses of parliament in favour of the bill. The Chairman of the Waterford and Limerick Railway, Thomas Meagher, Esq., M.P. for the city, William Milward, Esq., Captain Newport, and other gentlemen, directors of that line, signed in our favour; as did the Chairman and directors of the Waterford and Cork line; these bodies being impressed with the notion that the Three W's Railway would serve as a feeder for their lines. Nothing could exceed the popularity of the undertaking in Waterford and its vicinity.

CHAPTER II.

DUBLIN.

AMONGST the many advantages, arising from my connexion with the Three W.'s Railway, was that of having been called on, together with the other gentlemen belonging to Mr. Little's staff, to proceed to Dublin, early in the month of February, 1846, to make depositions before one of the judges, of certain matters, in conformity with the standing orders of the Houses of Parliament. I travelled by the night coach, and arrived at the

Imperial Hotel about half-past four o'clock on Sunday morning. Having partaken of some refreshment, I remained at the hotel until it was time to go to early mass, when I proceeded to Marlborough-street Church. After divine service, I returned to the Imperial, and took breakfast, after which I removed to the Royal Hibernian in Dawson-street, where I remained during my stay in the city. As I had not been in Dublin since I was a boy, I had plenty of occupation during the whole of Sunday in gratifying my curiosity, while walking through the several streets and squares, and along the line of quays. I need scarcely say what were the impressions made on my mind, as, one after another, I viewed the splendid public buildings in the metropolis of my native country. I felt then as I now feel, that had providence blessed me with ample means, there is no place in the world I would choose for a permanent residence before Dublin. On Monday morning I called on Mr. Little, and accompanied him and the other gentlemen to the Four Courts; and was greatly struck with the magnificent hall of these courts. After some delay it was ascertained that our business could not be entered into on that day, I was, therefore, at liberty to indulge myself in sight-seeing; and accordingly, I at once proceeded to the residence of a friend through whose influence I procured an order to view the College. This is a truly noble institution, but the library was what more particularly arrested my attention. I next visited the dissecting-room, and amongst other interesting matters, was fortunate enough to hear a very excellent lecture, which was given by one of the Professors, in the theatre of that institution. I, afterwards, walked through the park and grounds, which are extensive and well kept. This indeed may be called a national institution. What a pity that its honours are not open to all the youth of the country without religious distinction. Having indulged my curiosity in viewing everything of interest about the College, I paid a visit to the Custom House; which is a very fine and extensive building. It is to be lamented that the business of

the port is not so considerable as the edifice and its offices are capacious. On my way to the Kingstown Railway Station, I looked into the fine Catholic Church at Westland Row, which is a large, light and elegant building. I then proceeded by the railway to Kingstown, and walked along the fine pier to the light-house. On my return I went to see the Atmospheric Railway, which is a great curiosity. I then proceeded to my hotel, and, after dinner, went to the Theatre Royal, Hawkins-street, to see Miss Helen Fawcett in the character of "Lady Macbeth." She is, undoubtedly, a great actress, and possesses powers of the highest order, but there was an indescribable something about her, which did not please me, and I arose after the performance, impressed with the idea, that, in her hands, "Lady Macbeth" the ambitious but still queenly woman, was transformed into a demi-demon. Since that time I have had the good fortune to see this character sustained by a lady, who, whether viewed as an actress or a woman, has rarely been equalled, and in some parts, perhaps never surpassed. I mean the justly celebrated Mrs. Ternan, formerly the far-famed Miss Jarman. Her fine figure, her graceful bearing, her clear and feminine voice, and her speaking eye, added to her accurate and intuitive conception of her author, give her advantages to which very few, indeed, can lay claim. Mr. Creswick played "Macbeth," which character he sustained in a very creditable manner; his acting is a good deal in the style of Charles Kean. The choruses in the play were very well sung. The next day the Dublin Society House being open to visitors, I procured from one of the gentlemen of the committee of that institution, a ticket, which admitted me to see the several objects of curiosity and *virtu*, which are open to inspection, and which are as rare as they are numerous. After having gratified my curiosity here, I went to the Four Courts and remained in attendance until Chief Justice Doherty was at leisure to take our several affidavits, which he did at about two o'clock. I spent a short time in each of these courts, and, while there,

indulged in the reminiscences which are so inseparably connected with them. I thought of the great luminaries which, from time to time, appeared within their precincts, and whose eloquence and whose virtues, have rendered them the boast and the pride of their grateful country. Indeed, since we have lost our native Parliament, we have little left in Ireland to excite our admiration and command our respect, save the virtuous and independent members of the Irish bar.

I then set out for the Zoological Gardens in the Park, noticing, as I went along, the several bridges. I saw some rare specimens of beasts and birds in these gardens. Amongst others I was much struck with a fine giraffe, and a very beautiful lama. There were, also, in the collection a fine seal and an otter; the latter seemed very docile, and displayed its antics in the water, as if conscious of the gratification it afforded to the spectators. On this occasion I had a view of the Viceregal Lodge and the Constabulary Depôt. Returning from the Park, I continued to walk until it became dark, when I proceeded to the hotel, and after dinner, went to the Queen's Theatre, where I saw a very clever representative of Irish characters in the person of Mr. Collins. He possesses excellent requisites for this line of business; a fine person, a rich, rollicking Irish manner, and, what of all others is most essential, a good voice. The house was full, and he received unequivocal demonstrations of its approbation in loud and frequent applause.

On the next morning I enjoyed a very pleasurable treat while riding through the envied environs of the city, and that part of the country which lies between Dublin and Lucan; the first spring meeting being held on that day on the Lucan race course. The ride through the Park, the strawberry beds, and along the banks of the Anna Liffey, was exceedingly interesting. The Park is very extensive, and second to nothing of the kind in London or any other part of the British dominions. The column, which is surmounted by the Phoenix, is light and very beautiful, and forms a very striking contrast to the heavy and

unsightly pillar, called the Wellington Testimonial. The races were well attended, but, with the exception of one race, the sport was very indifferent. The principal or interesting race was well contested, especially between Mr. Murphy's horse, and Lord Howth's "Switcher," the former coming in the winner by a length; some of the other horses fell during the race. When the races were over, the greatest confusion prevailed, the entrance to the course being narrow and inconvenient; this reflects but little credit on the stewards, or the owner of the grounds. This limited and dirty space was completely blocked up with carriages, cars, and other vehicles, and a considerable time elapsed before the several conveyances could disengage themselves. The consequence was that night had set in before we arrived at Carlisle Bridge, while the driving, in most instances, was really furious. After dinner, on this evening, I called into Jude's hotel, and was amused with some tolerable singing; while I was not a little annoyed by the unmeaning clatter which was kept up, by many of the persons present striking the tables with the small spoons which are used by the visitors in making their punch.

In the month of February, 1851, having paid a visit to Dublin on business, on which occasion I remained in that city for nearly a fortnight, I had a better opportunity of seeing and examining some of the most prominent and interesting objects which abound in this, the second city in the empire. The Bank of Ireland, formerly the Senate House, is a magnificent pile, the Exchange, the Rotunda, the Post Office and the several churches, are worthy of the notice of the stranger. St. Patrick's Cathedral is particularly interesting, and calls up recollections of what Dublin was in her days of greatness and prosperity. The Castle is composed of two quadrangles, known by the appellation of the upper and lower castle yards. Magnificent buildings surround these squares, which are appropriated to the Lord Lieutenant, and those who belong to his household, with various offices of a public character. This is a very appro-

prate residence for the representative of royalty. The Mountjoy Prison is a very extensive and commodious thing of its kind, with all the improvements which an enlarged experience affords to those, who are the caterers for the comfort and convenience of a ruined, distressed, and in too many instances, a reckless and criminal population. Oh! if our legislators and governors would but take the same amount of pains to educate and employ the Irish people, that they do to support them in prisons and poor-houses, Ireland would soon become an honour, instead of a reproach to the proud and envied sister country.

In the neighbourhood of the Queen's Inn, or, as it is called, the Temple, considerable bustle was quite apparent; this was occasioned by the sales which were taking place in the Encumbered Estates Court, and by the numbers who were engaged in the Registration Office in seeking for information in relation to the estates which were encumbered. A large addition to these offices, a portion of which shall be appropriated to the lodgment and safe keeping of registered deeds, was then in a forward state. This will afford considerable advantage to persons who may be employed in making searches, as the present offices are small and inconvenient. During my last sojourn in Dublin, I attended the races at Kingstown, which took place near Killiney, about a mile and a half from this fashionable watering-place. The sport consisted of steeple chases; as large a number as twenty-five horses started in one of these races. The day was exceedingly fine, and the ground was covered with a very large and highly respectable assemblage. I ran down by a car, and returned by the railway, and felt well pleased with my agreeable and healthful excursion. It was the more gratifying, as I had been engaged, for several days, from ten o'clock in the morning till four in the evening, in making searches in the Registry Office. On Sunday the 16th of February, I attended divine service at the Catholic Church, Westland Row; there was excellent singing at the high mass, and after mass a very fine sermon. On the Sunday following I

attended at the Jesuits' Church, Upper Gardiner-street, and was much pleased with the service, and edified by the sermon. After divine service I paid a visit to Glasnevin Cemetery, which affords a striking evidence of the taste and refinement of the citizens of Dublin. A considerable addition is about to be made to this beautiful repository for the dead. Amongst the very many interesting monuments which present themselves to the notice of the visitor, is that of the renowned and illustrious O'Connell. This, I should hope, is but a temporary memento of that first of Irishmen, whose eminent services and great sacrifices, entitle him to the everlasting gratitude of his country. All that is rich in material, beautiful in design, chaste in execution, as well as solid and enduring, should be united to perpetuate a fame which will be much more lasting than even the finest monumental brass or marble. I paid several visits to the theatre while I remained in Dublin; on one occasion I had the very great pleasure of seeing Mr. Brooke play the part of "Sir Giles Overreach." He is a very great actor, and, since Mr. Macready's retirement, must be without a rival. I saw Mr. Sims Reeves and his lady in the opera of "*Lucia di Lammermoor*," and also in the opera of "*I Puritani*." He has a noble voice, and sung magnificently; his acting was equally effective, for he possesses both fire and feeling. His lady is a sweet, although not a powerful singer. I went to the Queen's on one evening; the pieces were trifling, but the theatre was well filled; on this occasion I saw Monsieur Desarais with his troop of dogs and monkeys, which amuse very well for once. Having finished my business I started for home on Tuesday the 25th of February.

CHAPTER III.

JOURNEY TO LONDON.

ON Saturday morning the 21st of February, 1846, accompanied by persons who were required as witnesses in reference to certain matters of controversy arising out of the opposition between the rival railway companies, I started on my route to London. We were so fortunate as to have for a travelling companion a most intelligent and gentlemanly man, whose extensive acquaintance with the whole line from Wexford to Dublin and, more especially, with the far-famed county of Wicklow, made him a very desirable and instructive acquisition to our party. This gentleman has since taken a residence in the neighbourhood of Wexford, and has become a magistrate of the county; and, in his double capacity of resident gentleman and magistrate, confers substantial advantages on the locality in which he resides. In the vicinity of the town of Wexford, the first object which is calculated to arrest the attention of the stranger, is the house and demesne of Saunderscourt, the fine seat of the Earl of Arran. The present proprietor has expended large sums in rebuilding the mansion, and in enlarging and planting the demesne; and from the refined taste and well-known liberality of the noble lord, the expectations which were entertained have been more than realised. This fine demesne is bounded on the south by the river Slaney, and contains, within this boundary and the demesne wall, about 1000 acres. Plantations, consisting of many acres, are to be seen on several parts of these grounds, while rich and handsome clusters, and, in some instances, single trees, are dotting the bright and extensive lawns. The interesting science of landscape planting is finely

developed in this beautiful locality. Saunderscourt House is very extensive ; it is a fine courtly building, but so complex in its general character as to render it very difficult to be accurately described. A casual visitor must be scared from the attempt by its variety and extent. The west front displays a rich and handsome façade, consisting of a centre and characteristic wings. A neat and light porch stands in front of the centre, and forms the grand entrance.

The private entrance is in the north front, beneath a curious and peculiar rustic porch, supported by four columns of the same character and material. Passing the rustic entrance you cross an inner porch which leads into a commodious hall : the walls of this hall are decorated with splendid family pictures. This porch is of a square character and is ornamented, on the top, by a course of neat arched-work, which appears to form the front of a surrounding gallery. About a furlong on the south-west of the mansion in the centre of an ancient church-yard stands the ruin of a small church : this was the parish church of Kilpatrick, and has but lately been disused as a house of worship ; the congregation now attend the new church at Kyle. In the east front of the church-yard, which is still a popular burial-ground, may be seen the ruin of a fine old ash tree, a portion of which has been rent from the parent trunk, and lies in a prostrate position upon the earth. What a lesson is here for the peer and the peasant ! The rent, decayed and prostrate tree, the tenant of a thousand years, the dismantled and roofless church, and the surrounding tombs, forcibly and eloquently, though silently, convey to their hearts the salutary truth that all sublunary things are but frail and fleeting in their nature, and warn them alike, the one not to indulge an excessive pride, and the other to dismiss from his mind the cankering feelings of envy. Alas ! the time will soon arrive when both will be placed on a perfect equality. The town of Wexford, the river and the harbour, can be seen to the greatest advantage from this fine place. A large wood, containing magnificent oak, was cut down on this demesne

within the last forty years. Artramont, the seat of George Le Hunte, Esq., adjoins that of the Earl of Arran, and shows a more ancient appearance, the timber being older and of larger growth. The house, which may be called a chateau, stands in the centre of the beautiful demesne; the pleasure grounds and garden lying on the east. These grounds are of considerable extent; the greatest care is bestowed upon them. In the hot-houses and green-houses the rarest fruits and flowers are produced, including the lemon and the orange. On parts of this demesne, as well as on that of Saunderscourt, specimens of the highly-prized cedar of Lebanon are to be seen. A rich velvet lawn appears in front of the house, and also in front, on the margin of the river, may be seen one of the fine old castles so common in this part of the country; while, on the opposite side of the estuary that extends to Castlebridge, the castellated ruin of Ballytramont presents itself and forms a very interesting object. On this demesne, as well as on that of Saunderscourt, there is an ancient burial-ground, in the centre of which stands the ruin of a small church in the last stage of dilapidation. This church-yard lies at a short distance north of the old castle already mentioned. A beautiful monument has lately been erected in this church-yard by a pious and affectionate husband to a young and amiable wife. It is composed of an elegant urn of white marble, resting on a rich sarcophagus, enclosed within a neat iron railing. The sorrowing husband is Patrick Breen, junior, Esq., Castlebridge. While here I was particularly struck with a small grave, fresh in appearance and decorated with beauteous flowers. The surrounding space, which is about the size of an ordinary tomb, is enclosed within a thick and handsome edging of box: the verdure inside of this space has a fine clean aspect, which proves the great care that is bestowed upon it and the frequency with which it is mowed. These instances of sincere affection for deceased friends, manifesting as they do pure and refined feelings, go to prove that after all there are creatures in the world worthy of being loved. On inquiry I found that the small grave

mentioned is that of Miss Le Hunte, the infant daughter of the amiable owner of the estate.

The house, the rich lawns, and the verdant meadows lying in the midst of umbrageous trees, are visible from the town, and form prominent and very agreeable features. A visit to this part of the country, which is about three miles from the town of Wexford, would amply repay such as have either leisure or inclination to view scenes which cannot fail to awaken feelings of the purest gratification. In this neighbourhood, and immediately adjoining the demesne of Mr. Le Hunte, is that very beautiful glen called Edenvale, through which the River Sow flows, and forms a fine cascade, falling a distance of several feet into a deep basin. There is a very considerable water-power available in this vicinity, which is quite capable of being converted to profitable manufacturing purposes, and which, I am sure, requires only the notice and attention of English capitalists to induce them to invest a portion of their superabundant means in establishing factories on its banks. With such natural advantages, and with the quantity of manual labour which would be available in a well-populated district, where the prime necessities of life are cheap and abundant, success, as a matter of course, would attend such a speculation. The tract which lies between Edenvale and Ferry Carrig, being a distance of about three-and-a-half miles, is a rich though tame bit of country, not unlike what may very frequently be seen in England. The estuary or bay formed by the river Slaney, which runs in front of Saunderscourt and Artramont, adds considerably to the otherwise rich and luxuriant appearance of these lovely seats. Castlebridge, a neat and thriving village, lies in the immediate neighbourhood of the river Sow, which is a tributary of the Slaney. Some of the resident merchants are the proprietors of extensive mills which are being spiritedly worked along its banks. Castlebridge has, for very many years, been favourably circumstanced, arising chiefly from the high toll charged on the Wexford bridge.

Some of the most extensive merchants in Wexford kept corn buyers here, and had the grain brought down in lighters for shipment; even now, when the bridge is rendered toll free, a considerable quantity of the produce of the north part of the county is disposed of in this market. There are, in this village, a neat church and a handsome Roman Catholic chapel: the rectory-house is a nice dwelling; the pleasure grounds, for their extent, are exceedingly pretty and tastefully laid out. The residence of the Rev. Thomas Stafford, the parish priest, is a handsome and comfortable house: additions and improvements have been lately made to it by the present reverend occupant. Patrick Breen, Esq., a merchant of long standing, and of probity and honour, is a resident of Castlebridge, and carries on an extensive trade there.

When factories are established in this locality, which I am sure must take place before the expiration of many years, Castlebridge will become a still more flourishing place. Ferry Carrig presents a picturesque and peculiar appearance, with its lone tower, the first stone building that the English erected in this country; here the handsome wooden bridge which spans the ravine formed by the adjoining heights, and beneath which the Slaney rushes with more than its accustomed rapidity, forms a striking contrast to its elevated and rugged neighbour; while the demesne of Killowen, the residence of Alexander Thacker, Esq., as it appears in the distance, reposes in Arcadian calmness and tranquillity. Erroneous notions have been entertained in reference to the tower at Ferry Carrig. This ancient building has sometimes been confounded with the building known in history as Fitz Stephens' Castle; and, although the present building also may have been erected by him, it is perfectly clear that it is much too limited in size to be that to which allusion has been made. Fitz Stephens' Castle, properly so called, stood on the eminence at the opposite or western side of the river, where the foundation may still be traced, surrounded by a ditch which the accumulation of ages has not yet filled up. This fortress

was demolished in the wars of the Irish. Some of the neighbouring peasantry continue to call it "Shane's Court," and a traditional legend exists in reference to it. This legend states that when King John was in Ireland he lived in this castle with a very beautiful lady, of whom he became enamoured, and with whom he continued to dwell in this stronghold in comparative seclusion.

Shane's Court certainly means John's Court, but the reading given by Mrs. S. C. Hall is "Shan-a-court," which signifies the Old Court. This, in all probability, is the correct version, the legend mentioned being entitled to little weight. As the traveller approaches Kyle, the hand of improvement becomes at once visible; the neat church, the handsome villas, and the clean and well-kept cottages, inform him that the good and resident landlord dwells in the midst of an improved and improving tenantry. Edermine, the residence of James Power, Esq., Deputy-lieutenant, late High Sheriff, and ex-member of Parliament for the county, is very beautiful. The house has been recently rebuilt, and stands on a lawn which slopes gradually down to the river Slaney, that flows in front of the mansion. The garden, the conservatory, the aviary, and, in fact, all surrounding objects, afford evidence of the taste and opulence of the owner. The furniture and internal decorations are quite in keeping with the external appearance of this really delightful residence. On the opposite side of the river, but nearer to Enniscorthy, appears Bormont House, the residence of the late James Gethings, Esq., which has also been recently rebuilt. It reflects much credit on the taste and spirit of its lamented proprietor. From Edermine to the town of Enniscorthy the ride is very delightful, running along the margin of the placid and gentle Slaney, frequently so calm and clear as to bear a strong resemblance to a lake of liquid silver. On the opposite side of the river, St. John's, the seat of Doctor Hill, arrests the attention of the traveller, and, for its extent, can scarcely be surpassed for picturesque and scenic beauty. Enniscorthy is a comfortable and thriving town, through which the Slaney passes :

several boats or lighters are constantly employed in conveying corn and other agricultural produce to Wexford, and bringing in return iron, coals, limestone, and other commodities. About a quarter of a mile above the town the river, branching east and west, forms an island which presents a handsome picture when viewed from the bridge, and is crowned in the distance by the several neat, fanciful seats which appear on the banks of the river. The too celebrated rock called "Vinegar Hill" overhangs the town on the eastern side, and presents a dark and lowering aspect: the reminiscences connected with this hill are such as bring pain to the mind of the philanthropist. The castle is a large and fine ancient building, in a state of excellent preservation; it is at present the residence of the Protestant curate. The church is a handsome building, and is embellished with a fine steeple and a large and sweetly-toned bell: this church has recently undergone very extensive repairs and alterations under the direction of Mr. Deane Butler, of Stephens Green, Dublin.

The Catholic cathedral is a large and extensive building, and was commenced under the direction and superintendence of the late lamented bishop, the Right Rev. James Keating. The architect is the celebrated Mr. Pugin. It is at present nearly finished, with the exception of the tower and steeple. When completed, it will reflect much credit on the architect, and the spirited people who, in seasons of distress and destitution, have given such a manifestation of their piety and munificence. There is a Quakers' meeting-house in this town, where, in the mid-summer season, an annual meeting is held, numbers of the Friends of this Society attend on such occasions, when Enniscorthy becomes a very gay place; it is no uncommon thing to see members of the society from all parts of the empire, and even from America, attending these reunions.

The Nunnery is nicely situated, and commands a fine prospect of the river, and the handsome houses which ornament its banks. The Fever Hospital and Union House are prominent objects, and appear to considerable advantage. There are also a neat Sessions

House and Market House in this town. In the vicinity of the Market House, recent improvements have been made, consisting of handsome and uniform houses, with neat shops, which would be considered no mean appendages even in towns of a higher class; certainly no part of our county can boast of anything to exceed them in point of taste and beauty. A very striking feature also presents itself on a part of the Abbey ground; this is the house and extensive concerns of that enterprising merchant, Mr. Sinnott; a large capital must have been sunk in these improvements.

The town of Enniscorthy is the property of the Earl of Portsmouth; the present Earl is incapable of managing his own affairs; his trustees, however, have shown excellent dispositions, and are considered just and benevolent stewards. Enniscorthy, like Wexford, is surrounded by a numerous resident gentry; the people themselves are public-spirited and patriotic, and, not unfrequently, give a tone to the county. On the whole, Enniscorthy may be considered a handsome and improving place.

Ferns is a village of the ordinary class, although, in former times, it must have been a place of considerable importance, having been the residence of the kings of Leinster, and the seat of the bishop of the diocese. There are portions of an extensive ruin still standing, that originally formed parts of an ancient castle of considerable magnitude. Within one of the towers of this ruin, a small chapel is pointed out, and is considered a great curiosity. An antique and curious monument, supposed to have been prepared to perpetuate the memory of St. Mogue, or St. Aidan, the founder of the diocese, occupies a niche in the present church. The saint is represented in his episcopal robes, his mitre on his head, and his crosier across his breast, and a dog at his feet. St. Aidan was for fifty years bishop of this diocese, and died in the year 632. The Palace, lately the residence of the Lord Bishop, is a noble building; it stands in the centre of a lawn, richly planted, and surrounded by broad lands

of the greatest beauty and finest culture. I noticed, while in this neighbourhood, a small castellated lodge, that belongs to the Rev. Zachariah Cornock. A servant is in care of this handsome place, which is, occasionally, occupied by its owner, when he visits his Ferns property, and also by his sons, when they go to that part of the country for sporting purposes. This property has continued in the possession of the Cornock family since the time that Cromwell's army came to Ireland. At that period, Cromwell, having confiscated the Church lands of Ferns, divided them between some of the officers and soldiers, who accompanied him in his expedition. The allotments were made on a graduated scale, and were in the ratio of four acres to a private soldier, and six to a non-commissioned officer. Officers who bore commissions received allotments in proportion to their respective ranks. Mr. Cornock's ancestor, who was a native of Cornwall, in England, and an officer in Cromwell's army, on receiving his allotment or proportion of these lands, made up his mind to remain in the country; and became the purchaser of several of the soldiers' lots, which they were very willing to part with, as four, or even six acres, were insufficient to afford the means of independent support. A gentleman of the name of Corbet, who held the rank of colonel in the same army, also determined on remaining in the country, and became, likewise, the purchaser of many of the soldiers' allotments. After the lapse of some years, the son of Mr. Cornock married the daughter and only child of Colonel Corbet, and thus the property which originally belonged to both of these officers, became vested in the Cornock family, who have continued to hold it to this day. The present proprietor is a kind and considerate landlord, and has ever been an upright magistrate. He resides in the vicinity of the town of Wexford, at his seat called Cromwell's Fort, so named from its proximity to the spot where the dreaded Oliver pitched his encampment when he invested the town of Wexford. Historians say that he was brave; Wexford, however, had abundant reason to know that he was far from being humane.

The Protestant church, or, as it is called, the Cathedral, is a plain, but convenient house of worship; west of the tower, a building or addition of more modern appearance has been erected, and which has been used as a school-house. The Roman Catholic church is a handsome and commodious building; its form is that of a T, with a gallery in each transept, as well as in the body of the chapel. The altar is enriched with a fine carved representation of the Crucifixion. This church is graced with a handsome tower, surmounted by a peculiar steeple, and a good bell. There is a fine clock in the tower. In Parkington's "Cyclopedia," an interesting description of the Castle of Ferns may be obtained; it is a really magnificent ruin.

Gorey may be considered a good town for its size; the houses in general are new and comfortable, and the markets are well frequented. Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart., and Stephen Ram, Esq., own the principal part of the property on which the town stands. There is a neat market-house in the centre of the town which, at present, shows evidence of neglect; the Sessions House is neat and convenient. There is also a small Fever Hospital of a peculiar appearance, being of octagon form with a conical roof. The Protestant church is a handsome edifice, the tower of which stands in the centre of the front instead of at the end, which is the general usage. The Roman Catholic church is a new, lofty, and massive building, of the Saxon-Gothic style of architecture. The sanctuary and the altar stand within the central tower, and unite, in their appearance, grandeur and simplicity. Smaller altars stand, one in each transept, beside the great altar. In the western gable there is an ornamental circular window of stained glass, which represents the descent of the Holy Ghost in the shape of a dove. The crypt is divided from the altar by a temporary screen, and appears to be appropriated to some special purpose, perhaps for the accommodation of the sisters of the adjoining nunnery. The pulpit is of oak, and displays carved figures of the evangelists, one on each of its four sides. The lofty arches that support the tower spring

from massive pilasters; there are eight columns on each side of the nave; these support the handsome intervening arches. The nave and the aisles are commodious and accommodate a large congregation. The neat residence of the parish priest immediately adjoins the church; the nunnery may also be said to adjoin it. A large number of girls are educated at the school of this convent. There are several landed proprietors residing in the vicinity of Gorey. The Earl of Courtown is a constant resident and an excellent landlord, who, both by precept and example, inculcates sound and practical improvements. The constant residence of a nobleman of this character must be felt as a real blessing, by his tenants and all who live within the sphere of his influence. Through his instrumentality large grants were made, from time to time, by the government, for the purpose of improving the navigation of the harbour at Courtown; but from the insidious character of the sands, which spread along that shore, these grants were expended in vain, and the neighbourhood deprived of the contemplated advantages. The seat of the noble earl is finely situated south of Tara Hill; the demesne is extensive and very richly planted, and contains about 600 acres, forty of which are appropriated to the pleasure grounds and gardens. Ornamental trees and evergreens of large size and luxuriant appearance, abound on this magnificent demesne. A large and beautiful evergreen oak stands in the garden, and is considered a rare curiosity. An uncommonly light and beautiful lodge can be seen within this garden; the roof projects considerably and is supported on all sides by neat columns. The house is in the Grecian style of architecture. Adjoining the principal entrance stands the neat and handsome church, surrounded by rich and umbrageous trees. At the back entrance to the demesne, which is approached from the road that leads to Courtown Harbour, a unique porter's lodge has been recently built. From the bridge of Ballinatrav, where the Owenavorragh river enters the Courtown demesne, a very beautiful view of a small picturesque and lovely valley presents

itself. This valley lies between the bridge and Owenavorrhagh Cottage, the residence of Solomon Richards, Esq.; the cottage and pleasure grounds are included in this delightful view.

Seafield, the residence of Lord Viscount Stopford, is situated between Courtown House and Tara Hill; the house and grounds have recently undergone considerable repairs and alterations, and at present exhibit a highly improved appearance. The furniture and decorations, which are quite new, are of the most fashionable and *recherché* character; they reflect equal credit on the taste and spirit of the noble proprietor.

Ardamine House, the seat of S. A. Richards, Esq., is a new and handsome building consisting of a centre and corresponding wings; the grounds are tastefully laid out and richly planted. The sea-shore in this vicinity affords ample bathing accommodation. The churchyard of Ardamine lies north of this residence. Immediately adjoining the churchyard I noticed a handsome and verdant rath, and also an ancient stone cross. The village called Riverchapel, which is of the ordinary class, lies between Ardamine and Courtown Harbour; there is an old and plain Roman Catholic chapel in this village. At Courtown Harbour may be seen the docks which were prepared for the accommodation of the shipping, when anticipations were entertained that the harbour could be made safe and convenient. A tile-yard has been established in this vicinity by R. S. Doyne, Esq., of Wells; and another of the same character has long been in existence on the demesne of Lord Courtown; in both of these places bricks, tiles, and draining pipes of superior quality, are manufactured, affording employment to a considerable number of the people of the district. Stephen Ram, Esq., who had been for some years residing in England or on the Continent, has returned to his magnificent seat, Ramsfort. The inhabitants of Gorey and his tenants in general, rejoice in the happy circumstance, and are anticipating the best results from his determination to become a constant resident. Ramsfort House presents a rich and elegant appearance; its internal beauty is quite in

accordance with its exterior. The furniture and decorations are of the most splendid and fashionable character, and elicit praise and admiration from those who are capable of appreciating the taste manifested in their selection and arrangement. Fine terraces, which slope downwards to the beautiful expanse of water formed by the Bann, appear before the west front of the mansion. This river, which widens considerably, before this front, and assumes a lake-like appearance, falls, in a handsome cascade, south of the house. The demesne, which is of great extent and beauty, is at all times open to the public; there is a fine porter's lodge at the grand entrance, and a peculiarly neat and fanciful thatched cottage on the side which is nearest to the town, and which may be considered the private entrance.

On this, my last visit to Gorey, which was made in November, 1851, I noticed while in the neighbourhood of Courtown Harbour, the interesting meteorological observations, and the manner in which they are taken. These highly important observations are conducted under the direction of the Royal Irish Academy. In order that they may be effectually carried out, instruments have been furnished, together with tables and printed forms, whereon may be registered the several indications which are pointed out by the instruments.

These instruments consist of a barometer; an ordinary thermometer; a wet-bulb thermometer, the bulb of which is covered with white muslin; a pair of self-registering thermometers; a wind-vane; an anemometer; a rain-gauge, and a thermometer for the measurement of the temperature of the sea. These several instruments are placed under the care of Mr. J. Davis, chief officer of the Water-guard station at this place, who has been instructed by the scientific gentlemen appointed by the Council of the Academy, to superintend and direct these interesting inquiries. The instruments are invariably examined every day at nine o'clock A.M., and at nine P.M., and their indications carefully read and recorded.

In addition to the examination just mentioned, hourly

observations are recommended and directed to be made on certain days, four times in the year, viz., on the 21st day of the four following months: March, June, September, and December. Should the 21st fall on Sunday the following day must be substituted. These observations should commence at six o'clock A. M., of the 21st, and end at six A. M., of the 22nd. Occasional hourly observations should be made whenever any remarkable continued rise or fall of the barometer is observed. The quantity and prevailing character of the clouds should be noted regularly at each observation, and also the general state of the weather. The following are the principal phases; bright, faint, or intermittent sunshine; mist, fog, dew; continued rain, showers, drizzling rain; snow, sleet, hail; thunder-storm, aurora. The electric state of the air is considered of much importance. Remarkable changes in the wind should be noted, and also storms and hurricanes. The sudden formation of clouds and the aurora phenomena should be attended to, and meteors and shooting stars are to be observed; the shooting stars should be particularly attended to on or near the 10th of August and the 12th of November, and the numbers seen in a given time counted. A tide-gauge is provided to ascertain the maximum and minimum heights of the tide each day; and also a ready means of observing the height of the water at any moment. The mode of taking the several observations in reference to the tide is very ingenious.

About a quarter of an hour before each observation the bulb of the wet-bulb thermometer should be moistened with distilled or rain water by means of a camel's hair brush or a small funnel. The temperature of the sea is ascertained by the ordinary thermometer, the bulb of which is within a small reservoir of copper. The instrument should be attached to a pole and immersed about a foot below the surface, in deep water. The temperature of the earth, at different depths, is a subject of great interest and importance; and valuable information connected with the same subject may be obtained by observing the

temperature of deep wells. It is the duty of the officer in charge of the instruments to forward the sheets, whereon the several indications are recorded, on the first day of each month, to the Council of the Academy. The scientific gentlemen interested in this great undertaking have been exceedingly fortunate in their choice of a careful person to take charge of this station. Mr. Davis affords ample evidence of his fitness for the discharge of the duty with which he is entrusted, by the clear and accurate manner in which he points out the uses of the several instruments. I have here to record my sense of the politeness of this intelligent officer. Apparently this is a matter of the greatest importance, and the precise observations which are uniformly being made, are likely to result in eliciting the most useful scientific particulars.

The amiable and excellent Sir Thomas Esmonde is a constant resident, and spends the greater portion of his time at his seat called Ballynestragh, within two miles of Gorey. The fine new Catholic church already mentioned, which has recently been built here, owes its erection, in a great measure, to the munificence of the right honourable baronet; and still more recently, large sums have been allocated by him for educational purposes. Matthew Ford Beauman, Esq., of Hyde Park, has a fine property in this neighbourhood, upon which he resides, and is an excellent landlord. Hamilton Knox Grogan Morgan, Esq., M.P. for the county, is the owner of considerable property in this neighbourhood. He resides in a distant part of the county, but in seasons of distress, his enlarged benevolence is sure to extend itself to the most remote distance, and consequently, his tenants in this part, become participators of his bountiful liberality. Besides, his lands, in general, are let on such reasonable terms, that even in seasons of distress his tenants are comparatively free from suffering.

Before leaving this part of the county, it may not be considered inopportune to notice Wells, the magnificent and extensive demesne of Robert Stephen Doyne, Esq. This is an eminently beautiful place; rich lawns and meadows, of great extent, are

here surrounded by trees of the largest growth and greatest beauty. The mansion is composed of fine brick, with cornices of white granite; its appearance corresponds with some of the ancient buildings which are to be seen in the neighbourhood of London and Bristol. When I saw it for the first time, which was within these last two years, it forcibly called to my recollection Hampton Court Palace, to which, in its style of architecture, as well as in the material of which it is composed, it bears a strong resemblance. Although the house is not so large as the Palace just mentioned, the grounds are vastly more extensive and equally beautiful. Wells has long been celebrated for its superiority in an agricultural point of view; all the improvements which the most approved scientific experiments recommend are at once adopted by the spirited proprietor. Stock of the finest breed are to be seen on these broad acres, and sheep of a peculiarly choice description, with distinguishing marks of excellence, appear in great numbers upon its rich and extensive pastures. This fine seat is situated about nine miles from Gorey, and fourteen from the town of Wexford.

Arklow is but a poor town,—for, although a sea-port, like Courtown, the entrance is so blocked up by sand-banks, that even vessels of a small size cannot enter it; and the place is so open to the east and south winds, that at certain seasons it is dangerous to be caught in a situation so exposed. The trade was heretofore limited to a few small vessels, that were engaged in conveying the copper and sulphur ores, which are raised in the neighbouring hills, to England. A tramway has been recently laid down, which facilitates the conveyance of the produce of the mines to a wooden pier, which extends into comparatively deep water. These improvements have given an impulse to the business of the place, and vessels of a larger class have lately been purchased, and are employed in the above-mentioned trade. A large number of the inhabitants support themselves by oyster-fishing, to obtain which they have to go a considerable distance from home; even their

fishing boats find great difficulty in obtaining egress and ingress. Leaving Arklow you soon approach the fine old demesne of Lord Carysfort, which lies south of the Avoca river. Its beauty and extent afford a tolerable notion of the rich treat that awaits the tourist in his progress through the far-famed vale. A little farther on, and north of the same river, you behold the grand and palace-like mansion of the Earl of Wicklow. This is, indeed, a magnificent residence, sheltered alike by the most beautiful forest trees, from the fierceness of the summer's sun, as well as from the winter's rugged winds; while the river, as it flows beneath, occasionally becomes a roaring torrent, filling the mind with images of Alpine grandeur and sublimity. At other seasons, clear and calm, it glides along, engendering ideas of the most agreeable nature, and wooing the listener to balmy and tranquil repose. Advancing into the vale, Cherry Orchard is pointed out, where, on a certain day at the close of summer, I think it is the 15th of August, a patron is held, which is resorted to by numbers of the neighbouring peasantry. It is quite a common thing for parties from the city of Dublin, to attend this gay and celebrated festival, where the day is spent in the enjoyment of such rural pleasures as the mind can reflect upon without reproach. Since the establishment of temperance principles, as many as eight or nine teetotal bands of music have been congregated on such an occasion. I wish from my heart that our legislators would revive and encourage these innocent amusements; reunions of this description would prevent the humbler classes from brooding over the real and imaginary ills with which persons in their sphere of life must ever have to contend. Still farther on is the Wooden Bridge, with its neat and comfortable hotel, an establishment which is every way worthy of the fame it has acquired. Here newly-married persons are in the habit of resorting to spend portions of their honeymoon. When I arrived at this celebrated place, I fell into a melancholy train of thought, and ideas almost inconsistent with its gay character

took possession of my mind. Alas ! I thought of the numbers of light-hearted beings who came hither filled with the highest hopes of true and permanent happiness. I feel that I know how to rejoice and sympathise in their delightful anticipations, but a matured experience convinces me that many of them enjoyed but a short-lived elysium, and were early doomed to disappointment and despair. There is nothing of the ascetic in my character ; still I could not, while I remained in this vicinity, regain my placidity or cheerfulness. I noticed on the ledge of one of the highest hills, a very neat, small, and fantastic cottage which, upon inquiry, I found to belong to Lady Howard.

New Bridge is about a mile from the Wooden Bridge. A handsome school-house, which is under the patronage of the Earl of Wicklow, can be seen from this place ; as can also Castle Macadam, where there is a neat church, and a very handsome glebe-house, in which the rector resides. About two miles farther on, and near to the Avoca Hotel, are the copper mines, that are spiritedly worked by Mr. Hodson, and in which numbers of the surrounding peasantry are employed. It was owing to the enterprise and public spirit of this gentleman, that the rail or tram-way, which runs through the Vale to the pier at Arklow, was laid down. The increasing numbers that have found employment in these works render it a matter of difficulty to obtain unemployed labourers, at present, in Arklow or its vicinity. Still farther on, the " Meeting of the Waters " is pointed out ; it would be as absurd as it would be superfluous, to enlarge upon this distinguishing feature, as the glorious and renowned Moore, the " poet of every circle, and the idol of his own," has long since given to it a classical immortality. At the " Meeting of the Waters," you emerge from the Vale, and soon fall in with the village of Rathdrum, at one time remarkable for its woollen manufactures. It has long since ceased to carry on this important branch of native industry. The Mart that was erected for the sale of the produce of this important species of manufacture, still remains, a sad monument of the melancholy

change which has taken place in this respect. From this neighbourhood a handsome seat, called the Recess, the property of Mr. Blake, can be seen amongst the Wicklow Mountains.

You now pass through Glenealy, a neat village, and approach Rathnew, a more important one, and immediately after drive through Lady Tighe's avenue, which is about two miles from the town of Wicklow. Arriving at Ashford, which is a poor village, you obtain a view of the Devil's Glen, a peculiar and romantic-looking place; the lover of rich and mystic scenes might here indulge his favourite passion. Not far from this there is a fine view of Ballycurry, the residence of Charles Tottenham, Esq., a remarkably beautiful and richly planted demesne. Advancing onwards, you pass Kiltimon House, the ancient and charming residence of O'Neil Segrave, Esq.; the demesne is of considerable extent, and very generally covered with fine plantations. Newtown Mount Kennedy is rather a good town, and derives considerable advantages from the numerous resident gentry by whom it is surrounded. You now arrive at Delgany, a very beautiful locality, which, after passing, you at once fall in with the Glen of the Downs; here the rich natural scenery arrests the attention, and commands the admiration of the tourist. You have now a full view of the Sugar-loaf Mountain on the left, the appearance of which is quite correspondent with its name.

Along this whole line, the traveller is frequently called upon to indulge his admiration, by a variety of fine mountain views. Riding from Enniscorthy, you have occasional glimpses of Blackstairs and Mount Leinster, the highest range of mountains in this province, and passing near Ferns, you have the handsome hill called Slievebuy, or the Yellow Mountain; while, as you move through the far-famed county of Wicklow, mountain scenery of the greatest variety, and richest beauty, strikes upon your view from several points, leaving an impression on the mind that time can scarcely efface. After passing the Sugar-loaf, you soon fall in with the celebrated Dargle; near the

bridge that crosses the river at this place, the admirer of rare natural beauties will find ample food for the gratification of his enthusiasm. You next obtain a view of Lord Powerscourt's princely seat, of which I could catch only a passing glance, and cannot avoid expressing regret that my notice of it must be thus limited. In this neighbourhood, the country seat of the Hon. Judge Crampton challenges the admiration of all who are capable of appreciating the admixture of the Florid with the Gothic style of architecture. Bray is a fine business little town; bustle and animation were quite perceptible in this place, and formed a striking contrast to the listlessness which pervades many of our villages. In saying this, it is by no means my intention to censure the people who inhabit small towns in this country. I have no doubt, that if profitable sources of industry were open to them, they would gladly avail themselves of such advantages, and would not fail to improve by the recurrence of each favourable opportunity. In this opinion I am borne out by the numbers who are, every day, emigrating to America, in search of that employment which they could not find at home. Another trait, very favourable to the Irish character, has also discovered itself; which is, that instead of idly dissipating the proceeds of their earnings in that country, they hoard them and forward them to the friends and relations whom they have left behind. It is too much the fashion to speak of the Irish as a people who are totally reckless and unmanageable. That this is a vulgar error can at once be proved, by considering who are the persons who compose the police force of the country. That they are Irish, no one will deny; that the majority of them are Roman Catholics, will also be admitted; nor are they chosen exclusively from a single favourite province, but are composed of persons from each of the provinces in Ireland. And where, let me ask, can there be found, in any part of Europe, a finer body of men, or who are more amenable to discipline, or more attentive to their duties, or more firm, yet temperate, in the discharge of them? From this I would infer, that if due encouragement

was held out to our people, they would prove themselves well worthy of the confidence which would be reposed in them. I wish, from my heart, that English parties would spend a portion of their leisure time in seeing with their own eyes our interesting country and its inhabitants. Then might we expect that they would be induced to invest a part of their capital in raising factories on our rivers, by which they would themselves become enriched, and our poor people be spared the hard necessity of crossing the broad Atlantic in search of remunerative employment.

After passing through Cabinteely, we soon arrived at the Rock, where we took a car to convey us to Kingstown. To attempt a description of the many unique and tasteful objects which present themselves in the envied environs of Dublin and Kingstown, would be like what Shakspeare calls, "gilding refined gold, and painting the lily." I would but expose myself and insult my readers by making the attempt. Having refreshed ourselves at Kingstown, I had an hour to spare before the sailing of the steamer, which I employed in viewing the pier and the other improvements that were then in progress. I was sorry to find, notwithstanding the large amount which a praiseworthy liberality enabled the Board to expend on this national undertaking, that it falls somewhat short of what a little more skill and foresight on the part of the projectors could have made it. The supposition is, that if the south-eastern wall had been extended about a furlong or so, with more of a curve, whereby it would have overlapped the north-western wall, much more shelter, and consequently more safety, would be afforded.

The works, however, have been carried out in such a manner as to call forth the approbation of the best judges. At six o'clock we went on board the "Iron Duke," and in eleven hours were landed at Liverpool. The night was wild and dark, and many of the passengers were affected with sea-sickness. The appearance of the Mersey on such a morning was anything but prepossessing. I obtained a tolerable view of Birkenhead, which forms no inconsiderable adjunct to this great commercial

place. Having breakfasted at the Grecian Hotel, we went, by cab, to the railway-station, and, in a few minutes after the time specified, were on our way to London, passing through a most delightful country, which, from the neatness and care that are everywhere so apparent, cannot be surpassed by any other country in the world. I will not attempt a description of the magnificent saloons which are fitted up at each of the stations where the trains stop; but I was particularly struck with the gorgeousness of the refreshment room at Wolverton. Here you pay sixpence for a cup of tea or coffee, a shilling for a plate of soup, and other things in like proportion. At the Grand Junction Station, Birmingham, the saloons are equally magnificent, and refreshments may be had on more moderate terms. At eight o'clock on Sunday evening we arrived in London, when we proceeded to our respective hotels. Some of our party went to Regent Street, while other gentlemen and I took up our quarters at Ashley's Hotel, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, where Mr. Little prepared accommodation for us, it being so near to where he kept his office. Having dined, I retired early, being somewhat fatigued from the effects of my journey.

CHAPTER IV.

LONDON.

ON Monday, the 23rd, I called at Mr. Little's apartments, 408, Strand, and, having taken his commands, I called at the "Globe" printing-office, and delivered Mr. Greene's letter to Mr. Moran, one of the editors of the "Globe" newspaper. At his request I left my address, and then proceeded to the House of Commons and delivered Mr. James Kenselah's letter to Mr. Thomas Mitchel, a gentleman who belongs to the staff of

the officers of that House. He received me very kindly and was most polite and attentive, showing me the House and everything of interest about it. He also showed me the House of Lords and the several chambers appertaining to it. He took down my address that he might be enabled to forward me members' orders for admission to the Strangers' Gallery. I then took a careful external view of the new Houses of Parliament, which, assuredly, will be, when finished, the wonder of the age in which we live. I saw at the same time Westminster Abbey, the Horse Guards, and Whitehall Palace, and looked into the court where Charles the First was beheaded. I then took the steamer at Westminster Bridge, and proceeded down the river to Blackwall, noticing as I went along the most prominent objects, such as Hungerford Bridge, Somerset House, the Custom House, the several bridges, St. Paul's, and the Tower. Landing at Blackwall, I went to the offices of Money and Henry Wigram, Esqrs., noticing the East India Dock and the extensive ship-building yard of the Messrs. Wigram: a large iron steam-boat was then being built in this yard, and several other vessels were on the stocks. Mr. Greene, an eminent merchant, has a ship-building yard of similar extent, immediately adjoining the concerns of the Messrs. Wigram. Here also great business is carried on, and several vessels were being built. I delivered a letter from Robert Hughes, Esq., of Ely House, to Henry Wigram, Esq., and had the honour of conversing with him and his brother on matters interesting to myself. He gave me a letter to their agent, Captain Wymple, who kept his office at Gracechurch-street. I then took the steamer to Woolwich, and dined at the Albion Hotel, after which I procured a ticket to view the dockyard, on writing in a book my name, profession, and residence. Here, amongst other objects of curiosity, I saw the new and powerful war-steamer "Terrible," the largest of her class. She is a most formidable ship; she carries sixteen large guns, some of them weighing 98 cwt. each, and throwing a ball of 56 lb. weight. Her engines are large and very

beautiful. I considered myself very fortunate in having an opportunity to view this magnificent ship.

I had also an opportunity of viewing the "Royal Albert," now on the stocks; this ship will be the largest war vessel that has ever been built in England. She was laid down in 1842, is now in frame and ready for being planked. Her length is 220 feet, and her breadth 60 feet, 10 inches; the depth of her hold, 25 feet, and her measurement 3393 tons. On requesting to be furnished with the above particulars, one of the persons in attendance took my message to the superintending architect, who requested to know my object in making these inquiries. I told him that I was one of her Majesty's Irish subjects, who, on hearing that this was the largest ship of war ever laid down in the realm, felt naturally anxious to ascertain her exact dimensions; whereupon he, very politely, furnished me with these particulars upon a slip of paper. I saw several large war-steamers lying in the docks, the "Gladiator," the "Retribution," the "Avenger," and the "Bulldog." At half-past five I returned by the steamboat, and called at Longstaff's Coffee House, Hungerford Market; I handed Mr. Cronin's letter to Mr. Longstaff, the proprietor, who, in consequence thereof, received me very warmly. He gave me reference to some private lodging-houses, and even offered to accompany me on the instant in search of them; this, however, I declined. He mentioned Mr. Cronin's name very frequently while we were together, and spoke of him with all the enthusiasm of an Irishman. I had some excellent coffee at this establishment. After leaving Longstaff's, I called at Mr. Little's apartments, and went thence to the Lowther Arcade, which is a curiosity in its way. I also called into the Bazaar in the Strand. Being desirous to see the celebrated Miss Charlotte Cushman, I proceeded to the Haymarket Theatre, and saw her and her sister in the play of "Romeo and Juliet." She sustained the character of "Romeo," and portrayed the young and ardent lover to the life. She possesses first-rate talent; her enunciation, and general style of

acting, in some measure, resemble those of Mr. Macready. Her powers are of a high order, and entitle her to the character of an able tragedian. Her sister played "Juliet" very respectably. After the play we were amused with a very lively farce called "Lend me Five Shillings." Mr. Buckstone, who is the author of the piece, took the principal character. This was succeeded by a very gorgeous entertainment, called the "Bee and the Orange-tree." Some of the most sterling performers of the day are to be seen at this theatre. At the close of the performance I returned to my hotel, and thus I finished my first day in London.

On Tuesday I called at Mr. Little's apartments and, after some delay, proceeded to Hungerford Stairs and took the steamer for London Bridge: thence I went to Gracechurch-street, and delivered Mr. Henry Wigram's letter to Captain Wymple, who, with great kindness, gave me all the information I required. I then proceeded to the Bank, and took my seat on the outside of an omnibus for Connaught Place, running through a great portion of the city, and noticing as I went along, several fine streets and squares, and passing through many of the leading thoroughfares, viz., Cheapside, Holborn, Oxford-street, &c. Having arrived at Sir Robert Fitzwygram's residence, I was informed that he had not yet returned from his country seat. I left Mr. Hughes's letter, and some leases for the baronet's signature. I then called at Upper Harley-street, the residence of William Wigram, Esq., for whom I left Mr. Hughes's letter, and as I passed along, noticed Bryanstone Square, Cavendish Square, Regent Circus, Oxford-street, Harewood Place, Hanover Square, Manchester-street, Cumberland-street, Portman Square, Regent-street, Waterloo Place, Regent Circus, Piccadilly, Quadrant, &c. &c. Having dined at Millbank-street, I went to the House of Commons at half-past four o'clock; but such was the interest created by the discussion of the Corn-law question, that I had to remain in the lobby of the House until eleven o'clock, before I could obtain admission to the Strangers' Gallery. Although I had six hours to remain

thus waiting, I had no cause to complain, for so perfect is the system adopted here, that the first man in the land cannot take precedence of the humblest individual who has obtained a member's order. Each person must therefore wait for his turn, and, as one or more persons leave the gallery, which is never over-crowded, an equal number of those in waiting is allowed to enter. Having taken a seat in the gallery, I remained until the House arose at one o'clock. The principal speaker on this evening was Mr. Ferrand, whose style is vehement, and who uses much action as he speaks. On this occasion I heard Sir Robert Peel, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Villiers. I saw Mr. O'Connell, who did not speak, and heard the sharp peculiar voice of Mr. Shiel, who, on more than one occasion during Mr. Ferrand's speech, cried "hear, hear." I reached my hotel at half-past one o'clock.

On Wednesday morning I went to Upper Harley-street, and had the honour of an interview with William Wigram, Esq. I then proceeded to Hungerford Stairs, and took the steamer for Blackwall, and called at the office of the Messrs. Wigram, and thence proceeded by the railway to their office in Gracechurch-street. I then went to the committee-room of the House of Commons, where the business connected with our line of railway was under consideration, and continued in attendance until the committee separated.

Mr. Brennan and I then went to Longstaff's, Hungerford Market, and the day being Ash-Wednesday, we dined on sole and salmon. After dinner, I called at Mr. Little's apartments, and, soon after, went with some friends to the "Garriek's Head," where the celebrated Judge and Jury held their sittings. The case which came under the consideration of the court, on this evening, was that of Mr. League against Sir Robert Peel, for criminal conversation with Mrs. League, the wife of the plaintiff. The counsel, who acted on behalf of the plaintiff, opened his case in a speech of great power and eloquence, in which he detailed the seductive arts which were resorted to by

Sir Robert. A witness was called who deposed to the truth of the facts contained in the allegation of the plaintiff's counsel. The counsel for the defendant then addressed the court ; and, in a speech of surpassing force, replied to the charges made against his client ; and repelled, with indignant scorn, the vile innuendoes which were thrown out against the character and honour of Sir Robert, arguing with a clearness and copiousness such as I have rarely heard equalled, and, perhaps, never surpassed. Witnesses were then called and examined for the defendant, and, the plaintiff's counsel having replied, the learned chief baron proceeded to charge the jury with a lucid perspicuity, and a degree of fairness and impartiality, quite in keeping with the high character which has always distinguished the English courts of judicature.

Persons of the highest respectability occasionally serve as jurors : on this evening it was said that a member of the House of Commons acted in that capacity. Here fiction was made to look so like truth that we were quite amazed at the talent and address that were displayed ; while we could not help deploring the misapplication of such fine natural and acquired powers as were then exhibited. It is said that Mr. Nicholson, who acted as the judge, and who is the proprietor of the establishment, was bred to the bar. Who or what the other parties were that figured on the occasion, I did not learn. One of them was advanced in years, and when he appears in his bar costume, is said to be like Lord Brougham, whose manner he very successfully imitates. The other counsel, who also appeared in his wig and gown, was a very respectable and fine-looking young man, who must have had the benefit of a good education. The judge also appeared in his robes, and, very considerably, occasionally adjourned the court, that the glasses might be replenished. A numerous audience was present on this evening, attracted, no doubt, by the novelty of the entertainment, and, in all probability, increased by the number of country persons then in London on business connected with railroads. Each person, on entering, pays one shilling, out of

which he is entitled to receive sixpence worth of rum, whiskey, porter, or ale. The court is generally adjourned at eleven o'clock, when singing, and afterwards dancing take place; those who may require them can be accommodated with supper and beds. Dinner can also be had in the course of the day at this establishment. We did not remain after the termination of the legal proceedings, but returned to our hotels, well pleased, and somewhat surprised, by the novel and intellectual treat which we enjoyed. I retired early on this evening, it being one which I have always been taught to regard with reverential feelings. Thursday, the 26th, I called on Mr. Brennan, at his lodgings in Regent-street, and proceeded with him to the office of Messrs. Grahame and Weems, 30, Great George-street. I carefully read over the "Wexford Harbour Bill," and made some extracts from it. At this office I met Sir Thomas Esmonde, who seemed very glad to see me, and had some conversation with him on the subject of the above bill, in which he took a warm interest.

Mr. Weems very kindly invited me to call at his office at all times, and said I could write my letters there; it being so very near to the Houses of Parliament, where my business lay, I availed myself of his invitation. I then proceeded to the committee-room of the House of Commons, and continued in attendance until the committee rose. I then went to Longstaff's, where I dined upon fish; and, after dinner, went to Astley's to witness the grand spectacle called the "Rajah of Ningpore; or the Sacred Elephants of the Pagoda." It was a very rich and magnificent entertainment, and, as far as scenery and machinery went, was pompous in the extreme; but the performance in the ring was very inferior, and far behind what we witnessed in Wexford, during the visit of Mr. Hughes, who exhibited in a yard near the Court House. When the performance was over, I walked to my hotel without the slightest interruption. An intelligent stranger must be struck with the admirable manner in which this great city is policed. Here, at all hours of the

night, at least in the principal thoroughfares, the greatest order prevails, and, should he miss his way, the police are most anxious to render every information and assistance. Indeed, if a man will but keep himself sober, and has a wish to avoid bad company, he will rarely have to complain of interruption or annoyance.

On the 27th I proceeded to the Committee-room of the House of Lords. I had the gratification to be admitted into the body of their lordships' house, and saw the law lords, Brougham, Cottingham, and Campbell, sitting in appeal cases. I heard their lordships addressed by a very clever Chancery lawyer, Mr. Bethel, in an appeal from Vice-Chancellor Sir James Wigram's Court. The style in which Mr. Bethel addressed their lordships was chaste, dignified, and beautiful. Counsellor Loftus Wigram was also engaged in this case, but did not address their lordships while I remained. I continued in attendance on the committee until four o'clock, after which time I went to Longstaff's and had an excellent fish dinner. On this evening I went with Mr. Macdonnell, civil engineer, to the Princess's Theatre, to see Mr. Macready in the character of Richelieu. This was a great treat. Mr. Macready's assumption of this part is a wonderful effort; indeed, it may justly be called a magnificent conception. The play is by Bulwer, and is replete with interest; but it is Richelieu—it is the wily and artful diplomatist who engrosses one's whole attention. I think that the entire history of the British stage cannot boast of anything greater or finer than Macready's acting in this arduous and truly difficult character. If it were only for the sake of this one great part, the lovers of the drama will have to lament his retirement from the profession, of which he has been so long the honour and the ornament.

On Saturday morning I took the steamer at Hungerford Stairs and again proceeded to Woolwich. I walked over the Common and saw some artillery practice, and examined some large guns and mortars, trophies of war. Having viewed the

Military College, I went to the Rotunda, and saw a vast variety of models: amongst others, I was greatly struck with the model of the Rock of Gibraltar. I then went to view the Arsenal, in the front of which there is a large gun mounted on a beautiful carriage: it is twenty feet in length; the metal seems to be of a peculiarly rich character. It is said that a company of Jews offered so much as a million sterling for this gun. I was astonished at the immense quantity of war-like stores which are to be seen at this vast emporium—guns of every length and calibre, cannon-shot of every variety and size in endless quantities. It is not wonderful that we are so long in the enjoyment of the blessings of peace, for, taking into account the vast resources at the command of our government, it would be the height of temerity and folly to court a collision with a country which is in a position to wield a power so formidable. An ungenerous feeling might lead parties to attribute our present friendly relations with foreign countries more to their salutary fears than to their amicable dispositions. I saw here, as well as at the dockyard, several gangs of convicts at work. Leaving Woolwich, I proceeded to Greenwich Hospital. This superb and magnificent building is in the Grecian style of architecture, and forms three sides of a square: the space in front of the river having no building upon it, leaves the whole open to view; it therefore appears to the greatest advantage when seen from the water. It seems, at first sight, to be one continued structure; but such is not the case, as there are four distinct buildings unconnected with each other. The materials used in their construction are of the finest description, which gives to the whole a light and agreeable appearance. A portion of these fine buildings was occupied as a palace by Queen Elizabeth. Several additions have been made since her time, the principal part of them in the reign of William and Mary, by whom the whole of the buildings were converted into an hospital for decayed seamen. Lofty colonnades, supported by handsome pillars, run in front of the greater part of the buildings: they

are covered over head, and protect those beneath from the weather. The fine open space in the centre of the buildings is graced, in the middle, by a statue of George the Second. On the western side of the square is the celebrated Painted Hall, which was boarded up when I paid this visit, some repairs being, at that time, considered necessary. Opposite to this, on the eastern side, is the chapel, which is about 110 feet long and over 50 feet broad. From the fine vestibule a flight of steps leads into the chapel, which is entered by folding doors of the richest mahogany. It is, indeed, a very extensive and beautiful room, capable of accommodating a thousand persons, who can, as it suits their convenience, be seated. The pulpit is pointed out as an object of great curiosity; it is composed of lime-tree; the desks are also very beautiful, and of exquisite workmanship. A picture of the "Escape of Saint Paul from Shipwreck" is placed over the communion table. I think it was painted by West. There are several figures introduced into it. I viewed the dining halls, the dormitories, and saw numerous memorials of Nelson, parts of the "Royal George," and other nautical curiosities which the old sailors are anxious to show to strangers. Such of these old men as I saw were very cheerful, and apparently contented and happy. One could bless the country whose provident care of the old and the helpless is so strikingly exemplified in this splendid institution. I now proceeded to the Observatory, which stands on an elevation south of the hospital, and looked through a powerful telescope. From this height, looking to the right, the Thames can be seen for miles in the distance, while to the left the steeples and piles of buildings, which form a portion of the vast metropolis, fall within the view. From this commanding situation there is a fine view of the noble park, which is of great extent and ornamented with beautiful and spreading trees. This park is open to the public and affords delightful recreation to those who reside in the neighbourhood or who come down by the railway or the steam-boats from the city. I am not surprised at the

vast numbers who are to be seen enjoying the advantage of these excursions on the river, for, although it was but early in the spring when I was there, I sometimes felt so oppressed by the heat and closeness of the atmosphere, that I considered it a great luxury as I participated in the enjoyment which the steamboats afforded. Leaving Greenwich, I proceeded, by the steamer, to the Thames Tunnel. This is a great effort of engineering skill, and the perseverance manifested in its construction, under every unfavourable circumstance, reflects the highest credit on the enterprising and scientific individual to whom it owes its completion. Its utility, however, is far from being in keeping with its cost, and I think less of it than of almost any of the great curiosities of London. As a thoroughfare it does not seem to be much needed, and, I should say, is not much used. The staircase by which it is entered is very beautiful. While walking through the tunnel one very sensibly feels a damp and earthy effluvia. A fair was advertised to be held within it in about a week after I paid my visit.

From the tunnel I walked home to the Strand, through Wapping, noticing the churchyard of that place, and passing by the London Dock, Catherine's Dock, the Tower Dock, Trinity Square, Trinity House, the Mint, Pensioners' House, St. Magnus's Church, Custom House, Searchers' Office, &c. I dined in Bedford Street, and then went to Drury Lane, to see the opera of "The Crusaders," which is one of the finest things of the kind produced in London for some time. The entry of the Christian army into Jerusalem is, perhaps, the most magnificent pageant that has ever been witnessed in this great theatre. Amongst the performers Miss Romer, Miss Rainsforth, and Mr. William Harrison stand the highest. There was excellent dancing in the ballet which followed the opera.

On Sunday morning at eight o'clock I went to Warwick-street Chapel, where I saw the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart., James Power, Esq. M. P., and Thomas Brennan, Esq. After divine service Mr. Brennan informed

me of the death of the lady of Captain Kenselah, which caused me much regret.

After breakfast, accompanied by two friends, I proceeded by an omnibus to Richmond, with a view of paying a visit to Hampton Court. On our way we noticed Kensington Palace and Gardens, Kensington House, a fine Lunatic Asylum; Holland House, and Hammersmith Suspension Bridge, a light and handsome structure. Arriving at Richmond, we took refreshment at the Star and Garter Hotel, and snatched a single moment to take a look from Richmond Hill, from which the view is magnificent.

On this occasion I felt much regret that time would not permit me to visit the grave of the gentle Thomson, the renowned author of the "Seasons," whose remains are interred in the churchyard of this place. Leaving Richmond, we soon arrived at Hampton Court Palace. This Palace was built by Cardinal Wolsey, and was considerably enlarged and altered in the reign of William the Third. It at present consists of three quadrangles with open courts, one of which is called Fountain Court, another of similar size is called Chapel Court, and the other is said to resemble the inner court of Holyrood House, Edinburgh. Its external appearance is very striking, being composed of red brick with stone cornices; the edgings of the windows are also of stone. The grand staircase is very wide; the walls and roof are covered with paintings, representing Roman figures, allegorical and historical. The principal rooms are floored and panelled with oak; these communicate with each other, and form a suite that goes all round the building. The visitor is at first introduced to the Guard Room, the walls of which are covered with ancient warlike instruments, and with paintings of English admirals, by Kneller. In the next apartment are portraits of some of the beauties of the Court of England, also by Kneller. In the third room is seen a fine portrait of Charles the First on horseback, by Vandyke; this is considered a fine painting. There are, also, in this

room pictures of great merit by Correggio, Titian, and Giulio Romano. The fourth apartment, or King's Drawing Room, has a full-length portrait of Charles the First, by Vandyke ; this is considered the best likeness extant of that monarch. In the next room, or State Bed Chamber, may be seen a beautiful portrait of Anne Hyde, daughter to the Earl of Clarendon, and mother of the Queens Anne and Mary. The King's Dressing Room and Writing Closet, and Queen Mary's State Bed Chamber, contain many pictures, by Holbein, Lely, Sebastian del Piombo, Leonardo da Vinci, and Albert Durer. The celebrated Cartoons, by Raphael, which are to be seen here, have long been considered as gems of inestimable value ; but whatever their merit may be, they are now much faded and deteriorated. The state beds are in good preservation ; they are very lofty, and covered with silk, satin, and velvet, with curtains to correspond. In this palace Wolsey was wont to indulge great pomp, and often held magnificent festivals ; and here he smarted under humiliation and disgrace. Edward the Sixth was born here ; it was the scene of much gaiety in the reign of Philip and Mary, and also in the reign of Elizabeth, during which periods masques and tournaments frequently took place. James the First held his famous meeting of the controversialists in this palace, and in it Charles the First was confined as a state prisoner, and, previous to his death, took leave of his family. Cromwell's daughter was married here to Lord Falconberg. Charles the Second sometimes held his court here, which was none of the purest. William and Mary lived in this palace after the Revolution ; but royal courts have not been held here since the time of George the Second. The plantations are rich and extensive, intersected with fine gravel walks, which are overhung with large and spreading trees ; in front of the palace there is a fine pond, well furnished with fish that rise to the surface of the water, on the approach of those who indulge their curiosity by looking into the pond. The park and gardens contain thirty acres, by which the Thames flows in an ample sweep. There

is a fine Tennis Court here, which is much used by the gentlemen of the royal household.

Prince Albert and some of these occasionally come over twice a-week to indulge in this exercise. Here are extensive graperies, in one of which there is a tree four hundred years old. The great grape tree is a rare natural curiosity; one branch of it reaches 110 feet in length; the conservatory in which it stands is 72 feet long and 30 feet wide, and the glass which covers it is 2200 feet square. Queen Mary's Bower is pointed out, and is a walk entirely arched over with trees. The Maze, or Puzzle, attracts much notice; it forms a walk of nearly a mile in length, within a circle of apparently small size, enclosed by hedges. It is laid out in such a manner as to confuse and puzzle those who enter it, whose difficulty in finding their way out affords amusement to persons who are better acquainted with its labyrinthine secrets. On our return from the palace and its interesting grounds, we took some refreshment at the King's Arms Hotel. There is a cavalry or artillery barrack in this vicinity. We soon started for home, passing through Bushy Park, then the summer residence of the late Queen Adelaide. The approach is by a long open avenue, no way remarkable for ornament or decoration; immediately within the entrance gate there is a large pond.

The mansion is large, with none of the characteristics of a modern palace in its appearance; we saw numbers of deer in the park.

This place is familiar to the public, as the carriages and omnibuses are allowed to drive through the avenue. Passing near Twickenham we saw Pope's Villa, formerly the favourite residence of that celebrated poet. Strawberry Hill, the residence of the no less celebrated Horace Walpole, is also in this neighbourhood, and is now the property of Lord Waldegrave. Lord Cowley, brother to the Duke of Wellington, and Colonel Peel, have seats here. Mr. Bevan, a London banker, resides at Cambridge House, Twickenham Meadows. On the river's

bank, near Richmond Bridge, the elegant seat of the Duke of Buccleuch is pointed out, and appears to great advantage. Orleans House, the residence of Louis Philippe, the late King of the French, when he was a sojourner in England, previous to his assumption of royal power, is a fine mansion, and is every way worthy of the illustrious personage to whom it afforded a shelter and a hospitable home. On our return to London we passed near Barnes Common and through the village of Mortlake. The whole distance from Richmond to London may be considered as a continuation of the great city. Houses, many of them quite new, are to be seen in succession along the whole line. We entered the metropolis by Hyde Park, at the corner of which is Apsley House, the town residence of the Duke of Wellington; the windows continue to be boarded up, since the time that a frensied mob committed an unwarrantable outrage on these premises. I noticed Cambridge House and Burlington House, equally rich and extensive, in Piccadilly. Having dined in the Strand, I availed myself of the fineness of the evening to indulge in a walk along this line and Fleet Street; and, at the expiration of an hour, retired, and thus finished my first week in London.

Monday, March 2nd.—I went to Trafalgar Square to visit the National Gallery, which is open to the public on certain days in each week. This noble institution is but of modern foundation, and is a building of large proportions. In this splendid Gallery, which has very justly been called National, are to be seen a choice collection of the finest pictures by the best masters. A portion of it is appropriated to modern paintings, many of them by Sir Joshua Reynolds and Sir Thomas Lawrence. I regret that I had not leisure sufficient to make myself acquainted with their respective merits. Amongst others, I noticed a fine picture of the late John Philip Kemble in the character of Hamlet, and also one of his great sister, the inimitable Mrs. Siddons, in the character of Isabella in the "Fatal Marriage." Even if I had the power, I would deem it superfluous to enter into a detail of the rare works of art which

are to be seen in this Gallery, as a catalogue can be obtained at a trifling cost.

In front of this institution stands the new Nelson Monument, and in its vicinity there are equestrian statues of two of the kings of England; there is also in front of this building a large basin, with two jets that throw the water to a considerable height which, spreading and scattering as it falls, has a very pleasing effect. The beautiful church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields stands in this neighbourhood; the porch of this church is considered the finest of the kind in London. Northumberland House, the town residence of the Duke of Northumberland, is situated in this vicinity; it is a large but plain building, with the figure of a lion standing above the parapet. On leaving the National Gallery I called at the Horse Guards and saw some of the "Blues" on parade. I paid a second visit to Whitehall Palace, and on this occasion, walked through Westminster Abbey, and was filled with awe and admiration as I wandered through its time-hallowed precincts. In reference to this venerable place I shall only say, that if I were limited to a single object in visiting London, the glorious reminiscences connected with it would decidedly induce me to give it the preference. I then went to the committee-room of the House of Lords, where I had the good fortune to meet the Earl of Courtown, who at once recognised me, and honoured me with his order to the gallery of their lordships' house. When the committee rose, I dined at Millbank-street, and, after dinner, proceeded to the Regent's Park to pay a visit to the Colosseum. I noticed in the vicinity of the Park, Park Crescent, Portland Place, Langham Place, Chester Terrace, Albany-street, Park Square East, and Park Square West. The Colosseum, which stands on the south side of the Park, is a conspicuous and magnificent object, with its immense Doric portico and circular roof; it occupies an area of about 400 feet. At eight o'clock I entered this building, which, for one visit, will amply repay those who may be desirous of seeing it. I must decline

attempting a description of this temple of curiosity. I shall merely say that its statuary, its caverns, with the Swiss cottage and cascade, and the panoramic view of London by moonlight, are all highly deserving of the stranger's notice. Several fine houses have recently been built in this neighbourhood, as, for instance, Cumberland Place and Terrace, Gloucester Place and Terrace, both of which display much grandeur and perfect uniformity. From the Colosseum I went to Madame Tussaud's, for the purpose of seeing her splendid collection of wax figures, and was greatly struck with their resemblance to real life, as well as the exact likeness they bear to the persons whom they are intended to represent. Amongst these figures was one of her Majesty the Queen, which was surrounded by a group of other figures representing Prince Albert, the Duke of Wellington, and some of the ladies of honour. The great Daniel O'Connell, Richard Cobden, and many other distinguished characters, are to be seen in their ordinary dress, and are very faithfully represented.

What I have here mentioned was very strongly impressed upon my mind by the following circumstance. When I was about to proceed to this place, a friend desired me not to leave it without seeing the figure of Mr. Cobbett; keeping this suggestion in view, I searched among the several figures, but in vain, as I could not discover the object for which I sought. On more than one occasion I had pointed out to me the direction where the figure was to be found; still I was at fault. At last I addressed myself to a gentleman who was seated, and apparently intent in looking at the objects before him, when, to my surprise, I found this not to be a living person, but the identical figure of William Cobbett, with his silver-grey coat, small-clothes, and full-brimmed hat. The visitors at this celebrated lounge are very respectable, many of those who were present on this evening being persons of high standing. The admission is but one shilling, but those who wish to see Napoleon's carriage pay an additional sixpence. Taking my leave of Madame Tussaud's, I adjourned to the Coal Hole in

the Strand, where I heard some excellent singing; after which, I retired to my hotel, where I arrived at twelve o'clock. Persons who are not correctly informed, might suppose from the name of the Coal Hole, that this is a place of questionable character; but such is not the case. The entrance to it is obscure and dark, but when you enter you find yourself in a large and commodious saloon, with stalls containing comfortable seats, and from which you have a full view of every person who may be in the room. In front as you enter, in a semicircular recess, stands a table on which music books are placed, and, seated round this table are about half-a-dozen respectable-looking persons, Mr. Rhodes, the proprietor of the house, being one of the number; these persons, at certain intervals, sing glees, choruses, and fashionable songs, and in this kind of amusement the evening is spent. I was greatly struck with a custom that prevails here. The persons frequenting the place are, in general, respectable, but they are equally varied in their character and circumstances; some of them residents in London, and others from various parts of England, Ireland, and Scotland. Their tastes are likely to be as different as their countries, and accordingly some call for wine, some for brandy, some for whiskey-punch, others for porter or ale, and others for supper. But the extraordinary part of the business is, that money is never demanded, the waiter merely asking each person as he departs, "What had you, sir?" The visitor tells what he had, pays, retires, and is never questioned further. How business can be conducted on such a principle, without loss to the proprietor, I really cannot understand. At the Cider Cellars, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, the same usage prevails. On Tuesday morning, I called on Mr. Little, and then proceeded to the committee-room of the House of Commons. I remained in attendance until four o'clock, when I dined at Millbank-street. It may not be uninteresting to persons unacquainted with London usages to know, that strangers in that city, who are anxious to see a great deal in a short time, seldom dine at the hotels or

lodging-houses where they are stopping, as to do so would consume too much time. A person, for instance, who lodges in a distant part of the city, would have to go three or four miles before he could arrive at the Houses of Parliament, and, if he were obliged to dine at his place of residence, much time, which is so valuable in London, would be lost. Consequently when the hour for dinner arrives, he avails himself of the most convenient hotel, or house of entertainment, and is never at a loss for such. Acting on this principle, I never dined in the hotel where I slept and breakfasted. During the first week of Lent, I frequently dined at Longstaff's that adjoins the Fish Market, and is so near to the Houses of Parliament, where my attendance was required, while Millbank-street, where, on other occasions I have dined, is still nearer to these houses. Having been honoured by the Earl of Courtown with his order to the gallery of the House of Lords, I went thither at five o'clock, and remained until the House broke up. I had the good fortune to hear an interesting debate on the subject of sending out convicts to Van Diemen's Land, in which the following noble lords took part, viz., the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Richmond, the Bishop of Oxford, Lord Stanley, and the Marquis of Londonderry.

Lord Stanley spoke at great length, he having been the Secretary for the Colonies at the period to which the question referred. His lordship is both a fluent and an impressive speaker; he was followed by the Bishop of Oxford, who is one of the best speakers in their lordships' house. He is the son of the renowned Wilberforce, the distinguished advocate and emancipator of the slave. His person is tall and majestic, his voice full, clear and melodious. Nature decidedly intended him for an orator; and had he dedicated his great talents to the law, or exclusively to the service of the state, the world would, by this time, have been filled with his fame. As it is, he stands in the foremost rank of his profession, although he is comparatively but a young man. Lord Monteagle drew their lordships'

attention, in the course of the evening, to the decision of their lordships' committee, in reference to the non-compliance with the standing orders by the managers of the Wexford and Carlow Railway Bill, and moved that it should be allowed to come before their lordships' committee again; when, after a desultory discussion, in which the Earl of Wicklow, Lord Kinnaird, Lord Littleton, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and the Duke of Wellington took part, Lord Monteagle's motion was agreed to. I left their lordships' house at nine o'clock, and after walking for half an hour in the Strand, called into the Coal Hole, and finished my evening; having retired earlier than usual.

Wednesday, March 4th.—I proceeded to the committee-room of the House of Commons, and finding a little leisure I walked out to view the parks, which are extensive and ornamental. I entered St. James's Park by the Horse Guards. This park is more than a mile in circumference, with avenues on the north and south sides: the southern avenue is called the "Bird-cage Walk." In the centre there is a fine sheet of water, on which swans and other water-fowl are to be seen. Here are rich lawns, which are separated from the avenues by iron railings. There are several entrances to this park, at some of which sentinels are posted. On the eastern side of this park there is a large gravelled space called the "Parade," where, at ten o'clock each day, the Body Guards, consisting of about five or six hundred men, who are required for the services of the day, are mustered. Here the regimental bands, surrounded by large numbers of admiring civilians, play some of the finest music in the best possible style. These troops, after passing in review before the commanding officer and saluting the colours, march off the ground. This park is entered from Waterloo Place by a fine flight of steps north of the parade. These capacious steps are surmounted by a lofty column which occupies the spot where lately stood Carlton Palace, the favourite residence of George the Fourth. Not far from this stands St. James's Palace: its external appearance is not only plain, but mean-

looking when contrasted with the other fine buildings in this neighbourhood. At the western end of this park stands Buckingham Palace, a fine stone building with extensive wings and colonnades. The basement story is of the Doric order, while those above are of the Corinthian. Several ornamental statues are placed on the summit of this palace. On the north of it is situated the Green Park, that forms an angle, the western side of which is occupied by elegant mansions, several of them belonging to the nobility. The north side is bounded by Piccadilly, with its line of fine lofty houses. This is a highly popular and fashionable thoroughfare. The other line of the angle is a wide roadway, called Constitution Hill, which connects St. James's with Hyde Park Corner. The whole of the Green Park is surrounded by iron railings, and is separated from Hyde Park by the line of road leading into Piccadilly. The principal entrance to Hyde Park is opposite to the Green Park, and is remarkable for the beauty of its architecture, which is rich and highly ornamental. At the south-eastern extremity of this park, near the entrance from Piccadilly, may be seen a colossal statue of Achilles, which stands on an elevated pedestal. This statue was cast from the cannon taken at the battles of Salamanca and Waterloo; its estimated weight being thirty tons, and was erected to honour the Duke of Wellington and his companions in arms by their grateful and admiring country-women. Hyde Park contains about four hundred acres, part of which is somewhat elevated: it is intersected with roads, walks, extensive lawns, and luxuriant trees, and presents a beautiful and diversified appearance. This park is considerably enriched by the noble sheet of water called the Serpentine. Kensington Palace and Gardens are situated at the western extremity of the park, and are separated from it by a stone bridge of seven arches, two of these arches being much smaller than the others. The gardens, which are eminently beautiful, and possessing all the advantages that rich lawns, groves, and the rarest flowers can bestow, are open to the public.

Military reviews are generally held in Hyde Park, while along the roads in this park and its vicinity equipages as elegant as they are countless are frequently to be seen. The foot-paths, which are railed off from the roads, are covered with well-dressed pedestrians, who enjoy the salubrity of the air and the gaiety of the scene, particularly from two to five o'clock on Sunday evenings. There are five entrances open to this park from an early hour in the morning until nine in the evening; but stage-coaches or other public vehicles are not allowed to enter it. Returning to the House of Commons, by the Horse Guards and Whitehall, I noticed in the vicinity of St. James's the Chapel Royal and the Duke of Sutherland's house, and at Carlton House Terrace the magnificent dwellings of the Duke of Leinster and the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, and many other houses equally beautiful. I again proceeded to the committee-room of the House of Commons, and, on this evening, my business at the Houses of Parliament was brought to a conclusion. Having dined at Millbank-street, I took the steamer for London Bridge and walked to my hotel, by St. Paul's, Ludgate Hill, Temple Bar, and Fleet-street. On this evening I went to the Grecian Saloon, in the City Road, and heard a concert, passing as I went along Lincoln's-inn-Fields, Gray's Inn, and Moorfields. The concert took place in a large oblong room, called the "Hall of Nations." This room is divided into separate compartments, each compartment being open to the view of those who enter. Over each of these flags are hung, which are emblematic of the several nations; as, for instance, the compartment that was intended to represent America had the striped and star-spangled banner hanging over it. France, Spain, Austria, Russia, Prussia, England, Ireland, and the several countries with which we are connected by trade and commerce, had each its separate compartment and its national banner. When the concert was over several of the parties in attendance, females as well as males, called for refreshment, and seemed determined to make themselves comfortable. However, I did not remain,

but, together with my friends, proceeded towards my lodgings. There is a very nice theatre in connection with the Grecian Saloon, but which, at this time, was not open. There were some good singers and excellent musicians amongst the number of those who appeared in the concert. On my way to Covent Garden I called at the house of Tom Spring, the ex-champion of England, who keeps the Castle Tavern at Holborn : he was from home on this evening, so that I had not the satisfaction of seeing him. I took some ale in the parlour of his house, where I met a number of respectable and intelligent persons. I then proceeded to my lodgings, where I arrived about twelve o'clock.

CHAPTER V.



LONDON, AND RETURN TO IRELAND.

Thursday, March 5th.—I called at Mr. Little's, and made arrangements for my return to Ireland. Accompanied by two friends, I called at Ackermann's, in the Strand, where, in conformity with the general usage of giving the name, profession, and residence, we obtained the Lord Chamberlain's ticket to view her Majesty's palace, Windsor Castle. We took a cab to the Paddington Station, and proceeded by the Great Western Railway to Slough, and thence by an omnibus to Windsor, viewing, as we went along, Kensal Green Cemetery, Hanwell Church, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Cranford Park, Uxbridge, and the River Colne, a fine trout-stream. Arriving at Windsor Castle, we first viewed the Chapel, noticing its fine organ, the monument of the Princess Charlotte, her whom Lord Byron so pathetically addressed in his celebrated lines commencing with "Weep, daughter of a royal line!" the Duke of Beaufort's

monument, which is very beautiful, and the Virgin and Child, a splendid effort of art, which is considered of great value. We then entered St. George's Chapel, a magnificent room, of an oblong form; here the Knights of the Garter are installed. We saw the banner, helmet, and shield of each knight. Here also are some beautiful pictures, amongst others, the "Nativity," and the "Offering of the Wise Men." We then entered the Queen's state apartments, comprising the Presence Chamber, the Audience Room, and the Green Drawing-room, with a variety of chambers splendidly furnished, for the full particulars of which, the "Windsor Guide" may be consulted. In one of these rooms I saw several gold vases and beautiful cups, being prizes which were won at Ascot Races by George the Fourth, with his celebrated horse, the Colonel. We now viewed Cardinal Wolsey's Chapel, which was built by him in the reign of Henry the Eighth; it is said that he intended to be buried here. We here also noticed the Curfew Tower, so called from the circumstance of its bell having been rung to warn the neighbouring population, under the provisions of the old and tyrannical curfew law.

Our next object was the Round Tower, built by William the Conqueror, and subsequently raised to a greater height by George the Fourth, who expended large sums in improving and beautifying this palace. This tower is 295 feet high; there are 225 steps in the ascent. At the entrance to it there is a large gun, so placed as to be capable of commanding the space in front, and of destroying all who would approach it in a hostile manner. From the summit of this tower, you have a view at once grand and extensive, comprehending within it twelve shires, which may, with great justice, be called the most richly planted and most highly cultivated portion of the world. From this tower, also, may be seen the following places: Frogmore, the seat of the Queen's mother, the Duchess of Kent; Runnymede, where Magna Charta was signed; Virginia Water; Queen Anne's Drive, through which the Queen passes when she goes to Ascot Races; and the monument erected to the memory of Gray, the

poet, which appears among the trees at a short distance from the residence of the Penn family, one of which was the coloniser of Pennsylvania.

We then visited the Queen's stables and coach-houses, noticing first a Russian sleigh, presented to her Majesty by the Emperor of Russia, and also a droschtzky, a present from the Emperor. These vehicles had not, up to this time, been used, as they can be available only in frosty weather. Here, also, we saw a fine vehicle, presented to her Majesty by the King of the French, called a *char-a-banc*. This is a splendid as well as an useful machine, and capable of accommodating at least eight persons. Every variety of English carriage and fancy vehicle is to be seen here, as also several miniature carriages and cars which belong to the royal infants. In the stables are to be seen very beautiful ponies, which are kept for the use and amusement of the royal children. One of these is the smallest creature of the horse kind in England. Here are to be seen magnificent horses, and amongst others two large-sized ponies, Dido and Dot, after the first sire in England, Dunsinhead. They are of a bright grey colour, and are favourite horses of her Majesty.

We visited the riding-house, where her Majesty is in the habit of exercising on horseback. She is considered a spirited and graceful rider, and manages her horse with skill and boldness. She very frequently, while riding round the ring, leaps the bar. A neat and elegant little drawing-room is attached, where her Majesty reposes when fatigued with riding. The Queen will often call at this part of the palace, at an early hour in the morning, accompanied by Prince Albert, quite divested of regal pomp, and attired in a comparatively plain manner. Opposite to the grand entrance to the palace is the celebrated Long Walk, which is two miles and three-quarters in length. An equestrian statue of George the Third is placed at the farthest end of this walk, and appears, when viewed from the summit of the Conqueror's Tower, to be as large as those of a similar kind which are to be seen in some of the squares of London.

Returning from Windsor, we passed through Eton, noticing the college and chapel. There are two handsome houses, which are occupied by two of the masters, opposite to the college.

Moving on from Windsor to Slough, great improvements were visible. A range of new houses, some of which were occupied, has been recently erected at a place called Upton Park. At the telegraph of the Slough station, I was surprised to perceive a placard which asserted that the electric fluid travels 280,000 miles in a second. This was new to me at the time, but at present we have all become familiar with the fact, which has been eloquently explained by the gifted and accomplished lecturer, Doctor Cahill. This wonderful agent, which, at present, is applied to every-day use, when coupled with the facility of steam-boat and railway travelling, that has brought the countries of England and Ireland, as it were, still closer to each other, would seem to favour the views of such as are opposed to a repeal of the Legislative Union. In this respect, science has certainly annihilated distance, and a whisper from the lips of England can strike with the rapidity of the lightning's flash upon the ear of Ireland; while every sigh of our poor country can, with equal rapidity, be made to sweep across the heart-strings of her more favoured sister. Thus may our gracious Sovereign and her government be made acquainted with our wants and wishes. Let us, then, hope that the day shall soon arrive when, through her interposition, an enlightened policy will supersede the coldness and indifference of our rulers; and, as they can no longer remain in ignorance of our grievances, that, even now, they will endeavour to ameliorate and redress them.

On entering the railway carriage we were conveyed from Slough to Paddington, a distance of eighteen miles, in half-an-hour, and then proceeded to the Strand by Sussex Square, Hyde Park, Piccadilly, Bury-street, St. James's-street, the Haymarket, and Trafalgar Square. Having dined in Bedford-street, I went to the Adelaide Gallery, and was entertained by

a tolerable concert, after which Mr. Henry Russell gave us some of his best songs in his best style.

Like many of the places of entertainment in London, dancing followed the close of the concert; but for this part of the amusement I did not remain. After leaving this gallery I called into the Cider Cellars, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden. This place has long been celebrated as one where wits and clever men have been in the habit of meeting. It is said that the brilliant and immortal Richard Brinsley Sheridan has taken the chair at meetings held here. Having partaken of a glass of cider I retired to my hotel, well pleased with the pleasure of this interesting day, which, by enabling me to take a view of Windsor Castle, has shown me the finest and grandest feature in England.

On Friday morning I breakfasted very early, and went forth, having many places to visit on this my last day in London. I first took a farewell view of Westminster Abbey, with which I had become somewhat familiar, having looked into it almost every day, it being so near to the Houses of Parliament. The length of this ancient and grand edifice is 416 feet, breadth at the transepts 203 feet, nave 102 feet, height of the west towers 225 feet. The exterior measurement is 530 feet.

The principal entrance is richly carved; with ornamented windows and pinnacles above it: this entrance is never opened except on grand and solemn occasions; it is designated the Beautiful, or Solomon's Gate. As you enter the great western gate between the towers, the magnificence of the Abbey at once displays itself. A screen divides the nave from the choir, over which stands a splendid organ. The walls on each side display a variety of sepulchral monuments; chambers, which were once occupied by nuns, may be seen above the line of tombs. The northern window is richly ornamented with stained glass; through this window issues a calm subdued light which has a very pleasing effect, and is very advantageous to the objects on which it falls; its mellow and softening character is strikingly

discernible on the surrounding monuments. The chapel of St. Edward the Confessor is at the east end of the choir, and contains the shrine of the saint ; the coronation chair is kept in this chapel, and under the chair is the stone brought from Scone, in Scotland, by Edward the First in 1297. The chapel of Henry the Seventh is also at the east end of the Abbey ; the ascent to this beautiful specimen of Gothic architecture is by steps of black marble beneath a rich portico. Here are installed the Knights of the most Honourable Order of the Bath ; in their stalls are placed brass plates of their arms, and above are suspended their banners, swords, and helmets ; beneath the stalls are seats for their esquires. The magnificent tomb of Henry the Seventh and Elizabeth his queen, stands in the body of the chapel. The Abbey may be considered as subdivided into nine chapels, viz., those of St. Benedict, St. Edmund, St. Nicholas, Henry the Seventh, St. Paul, St. Edward the Confessor, St. Erasmus, Abbot Islip, and St. John the Evangelist. The visitor is accompanied through these chapels by one of the respectable persons in attendance who, very satisfactorily, points out their respective peculiarities. Service takes place here daily, at ten o'clock in the morning, and at three in the afternoon ; the numbers who attend the service appear to be small, when contrasted with the population of the district—at least, so it appeared when I had an opportunity of noticing it. This may be accounted for by the fact, that the public worship of the parish is conducted in the adjoining church of St. Margaret. The ordinary entrance to the Abbey is by the Poets Corner, and is a spot to which the visitors in general seem very partial ; it is really a most interesting place. The next great object in this vicinity is Westminster Hall, or, as it is called, the Hall of Rufus, having been built in 1098, as a banqueting room by William Rufus ; it is 270 feet in length, 74 in breadth and 90 in height, being the largest room in Europe without central support. The roof is curiously constructed, and richly carved in the Gothic style. In this spacious room parts of the coronation ceremonies take place, such as the

challenge of the champion, the feast, and the banquet. Here Wallace, the hero of Scotland, was brought to trial and condemned to death; here also King Charles the First was tried and sentenced to lose his head. The mutations of time are strongly exemplified in this noble edifice, which has alternately been the theatre of the gay and the grave; however, with all its interesting reminiscences there seems to be but little interest felt in it at present, and consequently, its aspect and general appearance is dreary and desolate. It has, in the year 1852, been connected with the new House of Commons, to which it forms a magnificent hall of entrance, and has been restored to its pristine beauty.

In this vicinity are the principal public offices, such as the Treasury, the Admiralty, the Army Pay Office, the Horse Guards, Whitehall Palace, the Council Office, the offices of the Foreign Department, and residence of the Ministers, Downing-street, the Law Courts, and the bronze statue of George Canning, opposite Palace Yard.

I next proceeded to Westminster Bridge, and took the steamer for Blackwall, noticing once more the interesting objects which are to be seen from the river, including St. Paul's, Somerset House, and the Temple Gardens. In these gardens, the first conflict took place between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, known in history as the "Wars of the Roses," which produced many a sanguinary battle, and caused rivers of blood to flow. Leaving Blackwall, I went by the railway to Gracechurch-street. For the information of those who may take an interest in this hurried narrative, it may be necessary that I should explain why I had to pay so many visits to the offices of the Messrs. Wigram. My son William, who was then sixteen years of age, and who had served one year in the mercantile office of "Fortune and Company," was desirous, on the dissolution of that firm, to go to sea. I therefore took advantage of my journey to London, to endeavour to have him placed in one of the ships belonging to the great firm of the Messrs. Wigram;

and Mr. Hughes was kind enough to give me a letter to his relatives, for the purpose of advancing the object I had in view. However, obstacles presented themselves, which rendered nugatory my efforts in this regard. The eminent gentlemen to whom I applied did everything that I could expect to meet my wishes. They gave directions to Captain Wymple, the gentleman who acted as the agent for their ships, to appoint my son as a midshipman, or as an apprentice, in the first ship that would be ready for sea; and accordingly, he was appointed to the "Samarang," which ship was intended to sail for Calcutta in the following month. On my visit to Captain Wymple, he made me acquainted with the regulation and discipline of their ships; whereby I found that if he entered as a midshipman, I should be prepared with funds to sustain him during the first three years, at the end of which time he would be entitled to promotion, and that it would require over 300*l.* to do this. Not having it in my power to allocate so large a sum for his sustenance, I turned my attention to having him bound as an apprentice, but here matters were equally unfavourable; for if he entered as an apprentice, he never could, according to the rules of the service, rise beyond the rank of a warrant-officer, the superior officers, such as mates and masters, being chosen from the midshipmen. Thus, with the greatest reluctance and regret, I was obliged to abandon the idea of placing my boy in the first merchant service in England.

From Gracechurch-street I went to the Tower, when, having procured a ticket, I was accompanied by one of the warders to the several places of curiosity. I first entered the Horse Armoury: this place is full of interest, and, in itself, may be said to comprise a history of the country for many ages. The armour of the knights, and the caparison of the horses, enable the visitor to trace the gradual advance of civilisation. A knight of the time of Richard the Third, appears in beautiful armour, which was borrowed and worn by the Marquis of Waterford at the great Eglinton Tournament. Here we saw two of the favourites

of Queen Elizabeth, the Earls of Leicester and Essex, in light and graceful armour. I next entered Elizabeth's Armoury; there is a full-length figure of Queen Elizabeth in this room. Here the gallant Raleigh was confined, and here he wrote his celebrated book called "The World." Here we have the beheading axe and block, the revolting memorials of an iron age. I next proceeded to view the Bloody Tower, where the children of Edward the Fourth were confined, and where they were subsequently murdered by their uncle, Richard the Third. I then went to see the crown jewels, which constitute a very grand and brilliant sight. Here are several crowns, that which was prepared for her present Majesty's coronation being the most beautiful, and which cost, it is said, a million sterling. These jewels are valued, altogether, at three millions. Here you also see the swords of Justice and of Mercy, the sword of Justice being drawn, while that of Mercy remains sheathed. The traces of the ravages made by the late fire in the Tower were, in many places, quite visible; several large pieces of ordnance were to be seen, partially melted away by the fire. The White Tower, which was nearly demolished on that occasion, is now being rebuilt, and in a forward state.

This is a very large and extensive fortress, which want of time prevented me from noticing as I could wish. On my way to St. Paul's, I called to see the Exchange, the Bank of England, and the Mansion House. These edifices are very large, the Bank especially is of immense extent, and must afford to foreigners a tolerably correct notion of the vast wealth of England. I noticed in this vicinity the far-famed Lombard-street. Arriving at St. Paul's, I was struck with its solemn and sombre appearance; it is built of Portland stone, in the Grecian style of architecture. The lower part is enriched and ornamented with columns and pilasters of the Corinthian order; while the upper part is of the Composite order, with magnificent entablatures and balustrades. Turrets of elegant construction ornament and terminate the north-west and south-west angles.

The dome, which is of beautiful and majestic proportions, is surmounted by a lantern, supporting a globe and a cross. Its length is 500 feet, breadth 285 feet, height 340 feet, and its cost nearly a million and a half of money. It stands upon the highest ground in London, and can be seen, as a commanding object, for many miles.

The interior presents an appearance at once grand, extensive, and sublime, calling up feelings of admiration, in which are blended wonder, awe, and pleasure. In all its vast proportions, the finest harmony prevails, constituting it a perfect model of its kind. It would require an intimate acquaintance with the rules of architecture to enable one to venture on its description. The simple but touching words, which are used as an appropriate epitaph to Sir Christopher Wren, its great designer, can best convey a sense of what an intelligent mind conceives on beholding it: "Look around!" The chapel is most beautifully, and, at the same time, most chastely ornamented, and commands the marked attention of the visitor. Here, also, are several fine monuments—amongst them, that which has been erected to the memory of Nelson is the most remarkable. It is situated in the crypt, and is composed of black marble, which was originally prepared by order of Cardinal Wolsey for his own remains; beside it is the monument of his friend the brave Collingwood. Having ascended to the Whispering Gallery, from which the view of the whole is truly magnificent, as a matter of course I tried the effect of the whisper, and found it to be as I had heard it represented. I afterwards ascended to the Golden Gallery, from which there is a fine view of London, with its immensely interesting objects, such as the Thames, the streets, the squares, the monuments, with the Tower, and many other prominent features.

Leaving the cathedral, I took an omnibus and started for the British Museum. This is an immense institution; at the time I paid my visit considerable additions were being made to it. On entering, the first thing which attracted my attention was a

large and elegantly-ornamented Chinese bell, presented to her Majesty in the year 1844. It would be rashness in the extreme to attempt a description of this wonderful place, at once so vast and so full of interest. The objects are so multifarious and so diversified, ranging from the largest land and sea animals down to the smallest insects, that the visitor can do little else than wonder in bewilderment at their numbers and variety. Here are specimens preserved of the choicest kind in botany, and the rarest objects in geology; with every description of marine curiosity;—but to continue would be idle and fruitless. Amongst the most prominent attractions of this collection are the Egyptian specimens, which are to be seen in the hall of that name, consisting of mummies, baths, idols, and endless samples of grotesque and ancient relics. In fact it would require years instead of minutes to enable one to form a proper notion of an institution, which, for its magnitude and variety, is so essentially British; and which is unquestionably the greatest feature in the greatest city in the universe. This building consists of one principal mansion, with two main wings, which are occupied by some of the officers of the institution. Before the additions, which were in progress when I paid my visit, it measured 216 feet in length and 57 in height. Immediately opposite, as you enter by the great staircase, is a fine statue of Shakspeare, which was bequeathed to the institution by Garrick. Near the entrance, also, is a marble monument of the Honourable Anne Seymour Damer, holding in her hand a small figure of the Genius of the Thames. The museum is situated in Great Russell-street, adjoining Russell Square and Tottenham Court Road. A sentinel is placed on each side of the entrance. Paintings are to be seen on the ceilings of some of the principal apartments, by Charles de la Fosse; and also paintings and decorations by James Rousseau. On leaving this great collection of all that is calculated to surprise and delight, I set out for the Polytechnic Institution, where very rare objects of practical science present themselves to the visitor. Models of the most improved

machinery are to be seen here ; cotton going through every stage and process of manufacture from its raw state ; the atmospheric railway, with its miniature train flying along with singular velocity ; and hydraulics which show how water is raised to a great height. Here there is a powerful electrical machine, the wires of which are concealed within a space covered with water. Great pains are taken to induce juveniles and others, who are unconscious of the electric power, to place their hands in this water, by which a contact with the wires takes place ; when the sensation produced by the shock is matter of amusement to those who seek to entrap the uninitiated and unwary. Lectures are delivered at stated periods during the day, explaining some recently discovered scientific theorems, and propounding and examining certain problems of an interesting character. Beautiful and diversified dissolving views close each evening's entertainment. To one who possesses a smattering of science, this place holds out more than an ordinary degree of attraction. Leaving the Polytechnic, I proceeded to the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park. This park is situated at a considerable distance from the parks already mentioned, and lies in a northerly direction. It is about the size of Hyde Park, and is finely laid out in landscape garden style ; being enriched with lakes, plantations, and beautiful villas. It is surrounded by extensive ranges of buildings forming splendid terraces, which, for beauty and grandeur, are rarely to be seen or equalled. On the border of this park is the celebrated exhibition called the " Diorama," which consists of fine landscape views and illuminations of different hues, that produce a perfect resemblance to nature. It was too late when I reached this vicinity to be enabled to see them to advantage.

On my arrival at the Zoological Gardens the visitors had all left, but on my informing the person in charge that I would be obliged to return to Ireland in the morning, and that I was by no means certain that I should again have an opportunity of seeing the gardens, he allowed me to enter them. They are

situated at the northern extremity of the park, the grounds are tastefully laid out in flower beds and walks, which lead to the different enclosures or cages where the beasts and birds are kept. Here are to be seen fine specimens of the most ferocious animals; a fine lion and lioness; a pair of beautiful Bengal tigers; a variety of leopards, panthers, hyenas, wolves, lynxes, jackalls, and every variety of the monkey tribe; with eagles, vultures, ostriches, and an immense number of the smaller description of birds. A splendid elephant, the largest in England, with a temper none of the best; three magnificent giraffes, one of them much younger and smaller than the others; a fine kangaroo, with camels, bisons, buffaloes, and many of the deer kind, including the llama. This collection is exceedingly well attended to, and the officers in charge of it are polite and attentive. The approach of night rendered my visit shorter than I would wish. On my return from the gardens, I called at the "Coach and Horses," St. Martin's Lane, for the purpose of seeing Ben Caunt, the champion of England, who keeps a house of entertainment. I was ushered into a sparring school, in which a tolerably large number of persons were assembled, whose appearance was far from being prepossessing. Sixpence is paid on entering, out of which the visitor is entitled to threepenny worth of drink. While here I saw three sparring matches, the first between Allan and Grace, the second between Brown and Ryan, and the third between Johnny Grady (who fought Norley) and Young Cronin. At the conclusion of each match money was thrown into the ring by the spectators, which was divided between the exhibitors; I gave my counter, which entitled me to the drink, to Grady, and retired. Having descended to the bar, I informed Mrs. Caunt that I was a person from Ireland, and desirous of speaking to her husband; she at once sent a messenger for him, and, on his arrival, we had a little brandy and some conversation. He is a fine and powerful man, of which he seems a little vain; his face is the worst of him, and forms an appropriate advertisement of his profession; his

manners are gentle and agreeable. He seemed a little flattered by my having called upon him, and was anxious that I would continue longer; but time being pressing, I soon took my departure, having to prepare for my homeward journey in the morning.

Saturday morning, March 7th.—Started by cab for the railway station, Euston Square, noticing Upper Euston Square, Gordon Square, Duncannon-street, Seymour-street, St. Pancras Church, Whittlebury-street, Melton-street, Coburg-street, &c. &c. Arriving at the station, I soon took my seat in the second-class carriage, and sighed farewell to London. In passing onward to Liverpool, I was much struck with the several factories which meet the eye in the neighbourhood of Birmingham; and still more so with those which are to be seen in the vicinity of Wolverhampton, where large chimneys are vomiting forth flames, which significantly unfold the secret of England's great wealth and vast supremacy. Having arrived at Liverpool, I took a hasty dinner at the "Crooked Billet," and set out to see the celebrated St. John's Market, which appears to the greatest advantage at about nine o'clock on Saturday evenings. This fine place is second only to those which are to be seen in London; I mean Covent Garden and Hungerford Markets. After viewing this emporium of public utility, I called at Jem Ward's, York Hotel, Williamson's Square, where were assembled a large number of apparently respectable persons; we were entertained with performances on the harp and piano-forte, which were touched by tolerable artists. Two ladies and two gentlemen alternately sang some new and fashionable songs, to the satisfaction, as it would seem, of many persons present. Ward appears to be a man of decent manners, and possesses a decided advantage over the class of persons who belong to the calling from which he derives his celebrity. On Sunday morning I attended divine service at Copperas Hill Chapel; after mass an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Gillo, a highly gifted and interesting young clergy-

man. The congregation present on this occasion, was very respectable. After service I walked through this very celebrated mart of British trade and commerce, noticing some of the principal streets and public buildings; the Exchange and Nelson's Monument, the Custom House, Lord-street, Castle-street, Brownlow-street, Brownlow Hill, Pembroke Place, Moor Place, Statue of George the Third, St. Luke's Church, Dr. Raffles's Independent Chapel, Methodist Chapel, St. Michael's Church, St. George's Church, &c. I now proceeded to the most important part of this great place, namely, its Docks, which I viewed one after another, with equal surprise and interest. The "Great Britain," the immense passenger ship, was at this time on the stocks in the Queen's Graving Dock, for the purpose of having some improvements made in her screw. In this situation she could be viewed to great advantage, as she was entirely exposed to the notice of the beholder. Lying thus, she formed a magnificent picture: her large and finely moulded hull, which is considered to be of the most perfect form and symmetry, embellished by her five masts and her funnel, rendered her, as a whole, an object to be looked upon with pride and wonder. The great number of ships which crowded the whole of these extensive docks was well calculated to excite in the mind of one who, like myself, had seen them for the first time, enlarged ideas of England's vast wealth, gigantic power, and commercial greatness. Having returned to the hotel, I dined, and made preparation for my departure for Ireland.

At seven o'clock I took my berth on board of the "Princess" Mail Packet: she is larger than the "Iron Duke," and much more steady at sea. The night was closing as we passed the Rock-light, when I took a last long look at England, which, owing to the coming darkness, soon became lost to my view. While intently gazing on its receding shore I soliloquised thus—"Great country, I have visited you with pleasure; I leave you with regret; your laws and institutions I revere; your daughters

I admire ; and your sons I respect, more for their indomitable energy and perseverance in successfully carrying out true principles of industry than for even their prowess in war. I remember, too, that for centuries Ireland has experienced at your hands neglect and ill-treatment, still I know how to discriminate between the acts of the government and the feelings of the people ; and from the kindness and urbanity which I have experienced in my brief sojourn I am disposed to draw the most favourable conclusions. Had I known you in earlier life I might have struggled for fame and emolument within your bosom ; but, as it is, home and home's affections bind me everlastingly to my own, my dear native land, where I hope my ashes shall repose beside those of my fathers ; and, though I may not be as worthy of the country which gave me birth as they were, still I trust I will be found equally faithful and true to her. I shall now pray that the Almighty Disposer of events may be graciously pleased to fill the hearts of those amongst you, upon whom devolve the duty and the power of governing the empire, with amicable feelings and dispositions ; and that the result of such blessings may be manifested in an impartial extension of equal constitutional rights to a country which you call your sister, but that has hitherto known, comparatively speaking, little of the privileges and advantages which the British Constitution is supposed to confer on all those who live under its boasted and fostering protection."

We arrived at Kingstown on Monday morning at six o'clock, when I took a cab for Cabinteely and met the Wexford coach. The day being very fine, I enjoyed with renewed pleasure the splendid mountain scenery of the County Wicklow, and the rich and luxuriant beauties of its celebrated vale. I reached home on this evening after an absence of sixteen days.

CHAPTER VI.

CARLOW.

IN the month of August, 1846, I visited Carlow, for the purpose of witnessing the opening of the Great Southern and Western Railway to that town. The Ballybar races having been advertised to commence on the same day, numbers of persons were attracted to Carlow, many of whom were, like myself, drawn thither to see the first arrival of the railway train; others were induced to attend by the anticipated pleasures of the race-course, while very many, no doubt, were actuated by a desire to witness the combined advantages held out by both those events. On this occasion I proceeded by Ross, where I took the morning car to Carlow, and arrived on the eve of the all-important day. The first object that struck my attention after leaving Ross, was the old ruin called "Foot's Castle," which stands on a finely wooded eminence that overhangs the river Barrow, near St. Mullin's. The journey by water, from Ross to this place, is considered a real treat; the river winds in a serpentine manner through a delightful vale, amid scenes of rich and varied beauty; the distance by water is fourteen miles, although by land it is but seven. About two miles from this place, you arrive at Graiguenamana, which is situated on the river Barrow, and at the foot of Brandon Mountain.

Before entering the town you pass a very handsome cottage belonging to Mr. Burchill, which stands on the side of a hill that overlooks the stream. There is nothing important in this village, the church and chapel being of the ordinary kind. The Barrow, in this neighbourhood, is said to yield a good supply of salmon in the season: there were some fine trout killed by an

angler from the bridge on the day on which I passed. A fair being held in the village on this day, I had an opportunity of seeing some of the stock, which was of a very inferior description: the fair was held within an extensive enclosure which is appropriated to such purposes. Brandon Hill, one side of which belongs to Lord Clifden, and the other to Mr. Tighe of Woodstock; and Coppenagh Hill, that belongs exclusively to Lord Clifden, are well stocked with game. Coursing matches, similar to those which take place on Slievecoiltia, are frequently held on Coppenagh Hill. Soon after passing Graiguenamana you obtain a fine view of the chain of mountains called Blackstairs and Mount Leinster. The appearance of Blackstairs, as viewed from this side, is barren, bold, and precipitous, while Mount Leinster is more genial in its aspect, with its gorge opening to the south; while east, north, and west it rises in amphitheatrical style, and shows a lap which, at this season of the year, seems, for mountain land, rich and comparatively fertile. Borris, the seat of the Kavanaghs, is very extensive, and well worthy of the traveller's attention. You can see its rich lawns, interspersed with fine large and spreading trees, extending for miles, while the Barrow winds beneath and renders the picture as perfect as it is capacious.

The Marquis of Waterford and a large number of fashionables were to have a pic-nic party at this fine place upon the day on which I passed. Arriving at Bagnalstown, I was much pleased with its neat and business-like appearance. The houses are, for the most part, new and comfortable, and everything looked fresh and clean. The shops are tastefully fitted up, and have an air of prosperity about them. It was really gratifying to witness such an evident advance towards civilisation as this rising little place afforded. Here you see a very handsome church, which is large for the place, and also a neat Roman Catholic chapel. The Sessions House and Police Barrack have a nice appearance. In the neighbourhood of Bagnalstown there are several fine seats, with large and richly-planted demesnes;

amongst others may be mentioned that of Mr. Newton. Arriving in Carlow, I at once proceeded to view the Roman Catholic church and college. This church is very beautiful, and worthy of the illustrious dignitary whose master-mind planned and carried it to maturity, the great Dr. Doyle. The spire of the church is 160 feet in height, and 18 feet in the foundation; it is elaborately wrought and has a beautiful appearance. The wall-plate is 40 feet high, the principal window is very grand, the contract for the insertion of stained glass having amounted to 400*l*. The figure is cruciform, the crypt forming the sanctuary, in the centre of which stands the altar on a platform, which is ascended on each of its four sides by five steps. Two smaller altars stand, one on each side of the grand one, receding so as to reach the wall. On the right, somewhat in front of the altar, a chair, elegantly upholstered in scarlet and gold, is placed for the bishop, which he uses during the celebration of high mass, and on each side of the bishop's chair a smaller one for the accommodation of the clergymen who assist him during its celebration; while on the left there are other chairs, equally handsome, upholstered in green and gold, which are used by the celebrant of the mass, the deacon, and sub-deacon. There are, also, within the sanctuary, thirty stalls, fifteen on each side, which are occupied by students of the college. In each of the transepts reserved seats are appropriated for the use of those who pay annually for such accommodation. The transepts are lighted by two splendid Gothic windows, and are supported in the front by handsome columns. In the lower end of the nave there is a large and commodious gallery, in the back centre of which stands the finely-toned organ. A numerous congregation can be accommodated in this fine edifice; but I have never seen it full, which I think a great advantage as persons are not pressed or in any way incommoded. Indeed, according to my notions, all the requisites that constitute a fine church are combined within it. Beneath a flag which represents a cross, with a suitable inscription, repose the remains of the great

Bishop Doyle ; while one would imagine that he lives again in Hogan's celebrated monumental figure of him, in which he is finely represented in his episcopal robes. On the left of this fine figure, Hibernia appears, in a kneeling posture, leaning on the harp, and weeping for the loss she has sustained by the decease of this illustrious ecclesiastic. This monument appears to me a perfect masterpiece of the sculptor's art. Beside him, covered with a plain flag, rest the remains of Dr. Nolan. The college is very extensive and finely situated ; it is surrounded by parks and gardens, and presents an appearance at once healthful and ornamental. On a subsequent visit I had a letter of introduction from a merchant in Ross to Dr. Magee, who is the professor of theology in the college : the reverend gentleman received me very kindly, and showed me every thing of interest in connection with this fine establishment, including some very beautiful pictures. He also showed me through the Convents of the Presentation and Sisters of Mercy. These are fine institutions. There are sixteen sisters in the Presentation Convent. The chapel is very beautiful, and the reception rooms neatly furnished. The Convent of Mercy partakes of the same advantages : the gardens of each are extensive and nicely kept. Large numbers of children are educated and instructed in useful works in these truly religious houses. Braganza House, the residence of the present bishop, Dr. Healy, which is finely situated on the Dublin road, about a quarter of a mile from the town, is a handsome place, and shows to great advantage from the Athy road, which runs along the margin of the Barrow. There is a neat Roman Catholic chapel on the opposite side of the Barrow, in the parish of Graigue : the Rev. James Maher is the parish priest of this district. The Protestant church is a neat but plain building, with a richly wrought tower and elegant steeple. This beautiful steeple would grace a cathedral : a large gold cross gives a finish to its magnificent proportions. Having paid a visit to Carlow in the spring of the present year, I found that a new church, called

the Bruen Testimonial, has been commenced in the suburbs of the town, on a site nearly opposite to the Lunatic Asylum, on the line of road leading to Dublin. It is of the geometrical period of Edward the Third, cruciform in plan, with a central tower and spire 180 feet in height. At the western end of the ground are to be erected four alms-houses and a clergyman's residence; the whole to group with and to flank the church. These buildings are to be of the domestic character of the period ending the reign of Edward the Second. The entrance is to be paved with encaustic tiles, the settings to be of oak and quite open. The roofs are to be of open-work of a high pitch, richly wrought, stained, and varnished. The masonry to be of granite range-work, with limestone dressings wrought to a smooth face. The grounds are to be laid out with walks and plantations. The dimensions of the church are as follows:—Nave, 55 ft. by 23 ft. 6 in.; the two transepts, 64 ft. by 23 ft. 6 in.; vestry, 15 ft. by 9 ft.; porch, 9 ft. 6 in. by 9 ft. 6 in. Probable cost, 7000*l*. Architect, J. M. Derick, Esq., of Oxford and London.

The District Lunatic Asylum is a noble institution. Dr. White, the governor, whom I had known in Wexford, very kindly accompanied me through the whole establishment. Nothing can exceed the attention that is bestowed on the unfortunate inmates: they are most liberally treated, yet the soundest economy accompanies a judicious generosity. I saw several persons whom I had known in Wexford, and who were then inmates of the asylum; amongst them were two gentlemen of education and respectability, and I am sorry to say that their state is that of confirmed lunacy.

The Court House is a fine edifice, with a portico supported by handsome columns, which stand on a platform that is gained by an ascent of some dozen steps, composed of pure granite; it is said to be in the style of the Acropolis of Athens. The jail is not so large as that of Wexford, and consequently occupies a smaller area; the situation is backward, and the drop entirely

concealed from the public view. The barrack is small and inconvenient, a great portion of the space being taken up with passages and corridors; about one hundred and twenty men can be accommodated within it; the yard is neat and well kept. The greatest feature in Carlow is the Union Workhouse, the external appearance is rich and beautiful, being composed of the finest granite. I am sure that there is nothing of the kind in Ireland, or perhaps in Great Britain, to be compared with it. I have heard it said that the treatment of the inmates is far from being correspondent to the splendour of the establishment. However this may be, I incline to the belief that the paupers are well taken care of, at least in some respects, as the following circumstance will prove. On a Sunday evening, during one of my visits to Carlow, I was rather surprised to hear the sounds of martial music, and, upon inquiry, my astonishment increased when I found that these soul-stirring sounds proceeded from a juvenile corps of drummers and fifers, composed of lads from the Union Workhouse. They played very well indeed, and were followed by a large concourse of persons, as they perambulated the principal streets.

The Fever Hospital is a tolerably good house, but rather too near the railway station, the noise proceeding from which, cannot fail to prove injurious to the patients in certain stages of the distemper. There is a branch of the Bank of Ireland in the town, and also one of the Tipperary Joint Stock Banking Company; this is said to be a flourishing establishment; the shares are rising in the market, but it does not issue notes. The branch of the Provincial Bank has been recently withdrawn. The new railway station house, and the other offices are very neatly fitted up. The area occupied by the offices and terminus is 640 feet in length, and 350 in breadth; a new and wide street has been laid out, in front of the station, with fine sites for building; in fact the hand of improvement is quite apparent in this vicinity. The bridge of the Blue Bell, or as it has been called Dargan's bridge, is considered a fine effort of engineering

skill. It was built by Mr. Dargan, under the inspection of Mr. Williams of Dublin, who was the inspector and clerk of works under Sir John M'Neil. It is built on an angle of 43 degrees, 44 feet 6 inches from the oblique angle, and 32 feet off the right angle. It is 19 feet in height from the rail to the crown of the arch, 46 feet in the centre, and cost 611*l*.

The Government Inspector, General Paisley, considers this to be the finest bridge of the kind in the three kingdoms; he has also signified his unqualified approval of the line in general, and those who have travelled by it consider it safe and excellent. The carriages are beautifully got up, those of the third class especially have elicited the highest praise, and are, unquestionably, the finest heretofore in use on any line in the empire. They have slides at the sides, which can be raised or lowered at pleasure, with glass in some parts, an advantage hitherto unknown in carriages of this class. In fact the experiment has been eminently successful, and, considering the want of experience on the part of those who were assisting in the several duties, it is a matter of triumph that every thing went off so well and without the slightest accident. Mr. Dargan, with the greatest kindness, gave me all the information I required, which, considering the bustle that prevailed on this, the first opening of the line, I must take as a great favour. When I look back to the time I made these notes, which was in August, 1846, I have some reason to be satisfied with myself regarding the information I received, and the deductions which I made from all I had heard and seen. A more matured experience of the working of this line from Dublin to Carlow, and its several extensions, prove that the anticipations I entertained in reference to it were not founded in prejudice or error. Having acquired some information relative to the proportion in which parties were compensated, whose lands were used or intersected by the line, I found the treatment received by them to be most liberal. Captain Brennan for about one acre and a half of land near the Carlow terminus, received 500*l*.; while another person, for

little more than one fourth of an acre, received 200*l*. On the next morning, having witnessed the arrival of the Dublin train, by which a large number of the citizens was conveyed to Carlow, I set off for the race-course, where I met an old friend, Mr. Pearson, from the borders of the counties of Wicklow and Wexford, who brought up two horses to enter for the races. On my way to the celebrated Ballybar, I witnessed what I greatly feared might prove a fatal accident.

A young man from the neighbourhood of Bagnalstown, was walking, as it would seem, carelessly to the races, when he was struck from behind, by the shaft of a car which knocked him down, when one of the wheels passed over his neck, and the other over his legs. He was lifted up in a state of insensibility and laid against the side of a fence; on my return in the evening I endeavoured by inquiry, to ascertain more particulars concerning him, but what became of him I could not learn. The driving along the road to these races was very furious. This may be accounted for by the circumstance of the race-course being so near to the town; each driver can make several journeys in the course of the morning; and as they are struggling with each other to make the most of their time, no remonstrance can induce them to proceed at a moderate rate. The car on which I sat was very near being upset, the horse having fallen on his knee, but owing to the driver's dexterity he was enabled to recover himself by an upward spring; and "a miss is as good as a mile," was the feeling of the reckless fools, who were so fortunate as to escape, perhaps, with their lives. The race-course is situated in the heart of a most beautiful country; on the west you have before you a highly cultivated range, part of the Queen's County, interspersed with rich plantations and handsome dwellings, amongst others the seat of Colonel Rochfort. On the north the light and beautiful spires of the public buildings in Carlow break upon the view, rising amid trees of the richest foliage; and also the splendid demesne of Brownseshill, the elegant seat of Robert Clayton Browne, Esq.. On the east the

residence of Mrs. Kenselah, and the townland of Linkerstown appear, pregnant with rural richness; while on the south, the picture is rendered complete by the house and demesne of Mr. Butler; the large and spreading trees on this demesne are not inferior to any that may be seen in this delightful neighbourhood. The exciting amusements of the day can be viewed to great advantage on this race-course; a fine sloping bank which runs in a line from north to south, through the centre of the course, affords a facility to the generality of the spectators rarely to be met; while two neat stand-houses afford ample accommodation to such as may wish to make them available.

Large numbers of fashionables, ladies as well as gentlemen, honoured the course with their presence; while on the ground were to be seen every variety of carriage and other vehicle, at present in use in this country. The assemblage was large and respectable, and rendered exceedingly interesting by the beauty of the women, and the orderly and decorous conduct of the men. There were, at least, sixty tents, some of them 100 yards in length, which were well stocked with viands, and, generally speaking, densely crowded; yet I saw no disgraceful scenes of riot or intoxication. There were several tents and booths, in which minor theatricals, and other amusements were exhibited; they were very well attended. I was much pleased to see the clergymen of the neighbourhood give their countenance to these amusements. The Rev. Messrs. Kenny and Muldowney were present, and rode over the ground; their presence, I have no doubt, was not without its effect, on several of those who were in attendance. In fine there was nothing which could cause a drawback to the pleasure and gratification of the spectators; and to crown all, the weather was everything that could be wished for, even by the most fastidious citizen. On my return from the races of the second day, in common with many others I experienced much alarm, by an accident that occurred to an interesting and fashionable party; consisting of a gentleman and three ladies, who were riding in a light and

elegant open carriage, drawn by two spirited horses. In the confusion consequent on the crowded state of the road, the horses became restive, and plunged in a furious manner; while the ladies exhibited fearful symptoms of agitation and affright, one of them stood upright in the vehicle and screamed dreadfully. Indeed their position was full of peril, when, owing, as I suppose, to the presence of mind of the gentleman, the horses were turned into an entrance leading to a handsome residence, over the gate of which one of the horses threw his fore-feet, and stood, as it were, impaled. In this situation the spectators were enabled to render assistance, and most fortunately the party escaped without any injury, save the breaking of the pole and some other portions of the carriage. Being favoured with the friendship of Mr. Pearson, whose horse, "Pioneer," won the second race on the first day, I had opportunities of meeting some of the principal sporting men, including Messrs. Kennedy, Lockwood, Barry, Murphy, and Abbot. We spent about an hour and a half in their company after dinner on both days, and were made a little acquainted with matters of which the "knowing ones" only were cognisant. The latter part of each evening we spent in company with persons like ourselves, who were not so deeply skilled in horse-flesh; and where the conversation turned on matters of a more miscellaneous character. Here we met citizens of Dublin, Cork, Waterford, and Kilkenny, and gentlemen from the counties of Kildare, Wicklow, Queen's County, and Wexford; and, except in one instance, and that at an advanced hour of the evening, everything passed off most agreeably. I started for Waterford on my way home the next day, having declined more than one warm invitation to remain for that day's race; I attribute this kind treatment to the circumstance of my being a native of the town of Wexford.

Proceeding by the coach to Waterford, we passed through the Royal Oak and Gowran. I noticed Lady Dover's seat, called Gowran Castle, near the latter village. Her ladyship is sister to the Earl of Carlisle. In Gowran I took notice of the ruin of

a small church and tower, which are in a state of fine preservation. A neat little church has been built at the end of the tower, something like the manner in which Selskar Church is attached to the old Abbey Tower. We next passed a small village called Dungarvan, in which there is nothing calling for particular observation. On the right, before entering Thomastown, may be seen, amidst a handsome circle of trees, one of the round towers that furnish so much food for the antiquarian. It appears from a distance to stand upon a mound resembling one of the ancient raths so frequently to be met with in this country. Still nearer to Thomastown, and also upon the right, there is the fragment of a ruin, which, unless it marks the spot where something of more importance formerly stood, might, without outraging the national feeling, be very well removed. We now arrived at Jerpoint, which contains the ruins of an extensive abbey, second to nothing of the kind in this part of Ireland, save Dunbrody Abbey. On a subsequent visit, I noticed that, in the neighbourhood of Thomastown, numbers of labourers were employed upon the Waterford and Kilkenny line of railway. I was informed by a woman, who keeps a small shop in the town, that the consumption of bread, coffee, tea, and sugar by these persons was considerable, and that the vendors of such articles were deriving great profits from their outlay. This reminds me of a similar circumstance, that I heard while in Carlow, which was that so large a sum as £3000 was paid every Saturday evening in Athy to the workmen and labourers who were employed on the Cashel line. A railway bridge will pass over the Nore, a little below Thomastown, the crown of the arch to be 86 feet above the stream. From the time we entered the county of Kilkenny until we reached Waterford, the appearance of the potato crop was that of total ruin; and from Waterford to Ross, and thence to Wexford, it appeared very little better.

On entering Waterford, I at once perceived that there was more than the ordinary number of ships in the harbour. On inquiry, I found that many of them were German and Italian

vessels which had arrived with Indian corn. Some of them bore the Austrian flag, and were remarkable for their neat and cleanly appearance. This was the commencement of a trade that caused a wild and reckless speculation, which ultimately resulted in the failure and bankruptcy of many an old and respectable establishment. Having left Waterford by the car next morning, I arrived in Wexford on the same evening. I have paid one or two subsequent visits to Carlow, and found, with much regret, that the railway, although it has conferred unquestionable advantages on the public in general, has operated injuriously to the interests of many persons in business : to the proprietors of hotels and posting establishments, it has been of the most decided disadvantage. While the line terminated in Carlow, all went on very well ; but when it became extended to Cashel, Cork, Limerick, Bagnalstown, and latterly to Kilkenny, the change was felt to be productive of such results as I have before mentioned. I know of my own knowledge, one establishment that, for many years, continued to do so much business, that the proprietor was obliged to rent a second house as an auxiliary to the parent establishment ; but times, as I have before stated, having changed, the auxiliary house was given up, and not only that, but the original house itself has been relinquished within the last two years ; the family having removed to Dublin, and opened an establishment there. I have heard from good authority that this is not a singular case. A railway extending to Wexford would be attended with different results ; for isolated as we are, lying on the edge of the Channel, unquestionable advantages would be conferred upon us, while it could not deprive us of those we now enjoy.

In the early part of the year 1846, my railway duties caused me to pay a visit to the handsome little town of Newtownbarry, which is nicely seated on the banks of the river Slaney, that flows beside the village, and divides the parish of St. Mary's, in which it is situated, from the parish of Kilrush. This place was formerly called Buncloody, deriving this appellation from the

river Clody, that has its source in the neighbourhood of Mount Leinster, and which, after passing through the town, falls into the Slaney at the bridge near the entrance to the demesne of Woodfield. It takes its modern title from the family of Barry, this having been the surname of its late landlord, the Earl of Farnham, to whom the property on which it stands belonged. It may be said to lie at the foot of Mount Leinster, and is about five miles from the summit of that mountain, by which it is sheltered on the south and west. This town consists of one long and wide street, in the centre of which fine trees have been planted. A clear and copious stream flows beneath these trees, superseding the necessity for wash-houses, that are deemed such essential appendages to towns which are differently circumstanced. In a sanitary point of view, the inhabitants assuredly have no cause of complaint. The markets are held in the centre of the village, and, in summer time, it is pleasing to see the butchers' meat hanging on the trunks of the trees, and protected from the effects of the sun by the overhanging branches, while the stream that flows beneath calls up ideas of an equally agreeable nature. The houses, in general, are of a neat and uniform character; there is an old and respectable hotel and posting establishment in the town. The Protestant church is a fine, rich-looking building, while the Roman Catholic chapel is both a neat and strong structure, with a very handsome tower. This fine house of worship was built more than twenty years ago, under the direction and inspection of the then pastor, the pious and zealous Father James Walsh; the residence of the parish priest adjoins it. Owing to the difficulty of procuring a site, it became expedient to erect it in the adjoining parish of Kilrush. Very fortunately, no considerable inconvenience has been felt by the inhabitants, as they have merely to cross the bridge that spans the Slaney, to reach the chapel, which occupies a very commanding situation. It has undergone recent ornamental improvements by the present resident clergyman, the Rev. Richard Barry, and boasts of as neat and beautiful an altar as can be seen in any house

of worship of its extent. Woodfield, now the property of the Hon. Somerset Maxwell, is a very beautiful place, and abounds in fine timber. The Slaney winds in a serpentine form through the demesne, and is crossed at several points by fanciful rustic bridges. At the extremity of a walk of nearly two miles in length, along the margin of the river, there is a secluded and fantastic grotto, called the Moss-house. This is quite a favourite walk with the people of Newtownbarry, to whom it is at all times open. The house is an old building, of a cottage-like character; the gardens are tolerable, the terrace-garden, especially, which lies near to the house, is a very beautiful thing of its kind. The rising village of Clohamon is situated on the banks of the Slaney, about a mile from Newtownbarry, and is rendered remarkably interesting by the public spirit and great enterprise of Mr. Lewis, who, within the last twenty-five years, has established a cotton factory there. Numbers of persons, male and female, find employment in this establishment, and the greatest benefits have been conferred on the locality in consequence. Several new and comfortable small houses, which are chiefly occupied by the families employed in the factory, have been built in the village by Mr. Lewis. It would be most desirable that some of our monied gentry would imitate the example of this gentleman, as such undertakings would have a tendency to restore the country to its former prosperity. Speculations of this nature are the more called for, and are rendered peculiarly necessary by the great gloom and depression that, at present, pervade our agricultural interests in general.

There are several fine seats in this vicinity: Ballinaparke House, in the immediate neighbourhood of Newtownbarry; Clohamon Lodge, midway between Newtownbarry and the village of Clohamon; Ballyrankin House, the seat of the Rev. Nicholas Devereux; Newlands, a very handsome cottage, at present the residence of Captain Laurence Esmonde White; and Charlesfort, the seat of Walter Dawson, Esq., are all situated in the parish of Kilrush, and on the eastern side of the

Slaney. Clobeman Hall, the really beautiful seat of Matthew Thomas De Rinzy, Esq., is finely situated on the banks of the Slaney, and in the parish of Ferns, and presents to the tourist a peculiarly rich and elegant appearance. Mountfin, the residence of Mr. Huson, and formerly the seat of the Carey family, is a very handsome place, not unlike St. John's, the residence of Dr. Hill, in the vicinity of Enniscorthy. Within the last seven years, a very neat residence has been built by George Rawson Richards, Esq., on the demesne of Farmley, situated on the west of the Slaney, and between the bridges of Ballycarny and Scarawalsh.

In my latter journeys to Carlow, I either went or returned by the new line of road that has been opened between Wexford and Bagnalstown, by which means I had the pleasure of being in the immediate home of the mountains of Black Stairs and Mount Leinster, and felt gratification in being thus rendered familiar with them. Game is plentiful on these mountains, especially the rare and valued grouse. There is nothing calling for particular attention in the line of country leading from Wexford to Bagnalstown. While the coach runs along the margin of the Slaney to Carrigmenane, all is a scene of rich and tranquil beauty; but when you pass Killurin, and until you arrive in the neighbourhood of Castleboro's, the country is destitute of the traits which call forth praise or panegyric. In the last mentioned vicinity there is much to please and interest the tourist. Ballymackesy, the residence of the Fitzhenries and the Sweetmans, abounds in rich and picturesque scenes. While in this neighbourhood you obtain a view of Castleboro's House, the residence of Lord Carew, which has recently been rebuilt at an immense outlay, and is the finest mansion that has been erected in Ireland for many years. The surrounding demesne is in every respect worthy of the magnificent appendage, which has been raised by the hand of artistic refinement to shed an additional lustre on its rare natural and acknowledged beauties.

CHAPTER VII.

WATERFORD CITY, TRAMORE, AND CARRICK-ON-SUIR.

ON the morning of the 5th of August 1850, I left Wexford for the purpose of making a tour to some of the cities and towns in the south of Ireland; and also with the intention of visiting the far-famed lakes of Killarney. The morning was gloomy yet warm, and the rain, which had fallen somewhat profusely the previous day, left the roads in such a state as rendered them pleasant for the traveller. From Wexford to Ross there is little to interest even a stranger, while to a native and one who had frequently gone by the same route, there is not even the charm of novelty to render it interesting. When you pass the Glynn and lose sight of the valley of the Slaney, you have not much to admire, save the appearance of an odd villa, with an occasional view of the chain of mountains which forms the north-western boundary of the county. On the old or Taghmon line of road interesting objects are much more numerous, including the demesnes of Hilburne, Tottenham Green, Horetown, Raheenduff, Rose Garland, and Longgraigne. Before leaving the neighbourhood of Carrig, it would be an act of great injustice to omit mentioning the improvements that have recently taken place at Belmont, the property of the Earl of Donoughmore, where the mansion has been rebuilt, and the entire demesne surrounded by a new and substantial wall. In these improvements many persons in the neighbourhood must have found seasonable and remunerative employment. South-west of the mansion an ample space has been walled in for a new garden, and a garden lodge built. A new avenue is also about to

be made, which will be entered from the Carrigmenane or western Enniscorthy road. The house, which is to be the permanent residence of the Countess Dowager of Donoughmore, is a fine sample of the Anglo-Saxon Gothic, or old English style of architecture. The north front faces the Slaney, and displays a very fine aspect; on each extremity of this front there is a projection, containing large and ornamental windows of plate glass. The grand entrance is in the western extremity of this front, beneath a handsome porch supported by octagon pillars. Neat Gothic arches spring from these pillars, and are surmounted by an embrasure balcony which, in the centre, bears the family coat of arms.

The inner vestibule is approached from the entrance hall by a flight of fine granite steps. The staircase is of ample dimensions, and will be lighted by a dome of stained glass. The principal apartments on the over-ground story consist of the dining parlour, the library, and the drawing-room; these are fine, lofty, and commodious rooms, the ceilings and cornices are very rich, but of a chaste and subdued character. From the windows there is an excellent view of the surrounding country. The river, as seen from some of these windows, presents the appearance of a lake, its extent being concealed by a part of the lawn.

Thus viewed, it appears to be encircled by the lands of Belmont, and to be included within them. The bed-rooms are large and convenient, with dressing-rooms attached; the latter can be entered from the corridors, and the inconvenience, caused by the servants passing through the bed-rooms, obviated. From the windows on this storey the river displays its full and enlarged appearance, and is an object to be looked upon with interest and admiration. The pleasure-grounds, ornamented with handsome terraces and fine walks, lie south and east of the mansion, and are only divided by the road that leads from the main to the private entrance from the rich lawn that extends to the edge of the rocky ravine, by which the demesne is bounded in that direction. Immediately opposite the south-front an elegant parterre is laid out. A small square tower decorates

this side of the building. The offices lie west of the house, and form a quadrangle, the front or north wall being ornamented, so as to harmonise with the front of the mansion; they are entered on the west by a capacious arch. It is a source of great gratification to know that the Countess has determined on residing on this part of her property, which lies so near to the town of Wexford. On the north-eastern extremity of the demesne, and in the immediate vicinity of a secluded and romantic glen, lies the ancient churchyard of the parish of Carrig. The mouldering remains of the old church may be seen in the centre of this still popular burial-ground, the roots of the wreathing ivy alone preserving it from total prostration. Here, also, reverence and affection for the dead are strikingly exemplified, the graves being decorated with laurels and other evergreens. The tourist is next called on to notice Barntown Cottage and Castle, the beautiful residence of Sheppard Jeffares, Esq., who, at a very great expense, has converted what was once a barren mountain into a fairy scene, surrounding a charming villa. From this neat dwelling, which is situated on the north side of the eastern extremity of the Mountain of Forth, there is a magnificent prospect; embracing within it the river Slaney, the hilly range, which, on this side, forms the boundary of the county, and the diversified and picturesque mountain groups of the county of Wicklow. From the summit of the rocky eminence south of the house, which can be approached by a few minutes' walk, the harbour of Wexford with its bays, together with a considerable portion of St. George's Channel, and the baronies of Forth and Bargy are open to observation. The house, with its nice porch, has a rich and comfortable appearance; while the lawn, the garden, and the adjoining grounds, amply furnished with evergreens and luxuriant trees, are well calculated to gratify and delight the lover of sylvan beauty; the whole being brought to an enviable state of maturity by the hand of liberality and taste. The ancient Castle of Barntown immediately adjoins the lawn; it is a ruin

in a state of excellent preservation, and must be considered as a valuable appendage to this highly improved place. A new and handsome Roman Catholic chapel has been lately erected at Barntown, under the immediate superintendence of the parish priest, the Very Rev. Dean Murphy, vicar-general of the diocese. It is in the Pugin style of architecture, and presents a very pretty appearance when viewed from the high road; while the interior exhibits a degree of comfort and convenience equal to anything which can be seen in any house of worship of the same dimensions. There are connected with this chapel circumstances which are calculated to afford pleasure to the heart of the Christian philosopher. The first of these arises from the fact that the landlord, James Howlin, Esq., with the most praiseworthy liberality, has given the site on which it is built, with the chapel-yard and cemetery, free of rent, and on a lease for ever; while the other is to be found in the equally gratifying fact, that the kind and benevolent Sheppard Jeffares, Esq., has been a liberal contributor to the fund for its erection. These acts of pure benevolence and Christian charity are enhanced by these excellent gentlemen being of a different religious persuasion. The monotonous sameness of the ride along this line of country, is, in the vicinity of Carrigburne, broken by the handsome and tasteful cottages which appear in that neighbourhood. These, as well as the excellent roads which branch off in opposite directions, and the neat finger-posts that furnish the required information, at once apprise the traveller that some person of influence, of intelligence, and taste is a resident of the locality. Upon inquiry, he will find that these improvements have all emanated from their proper and legitimate source, and owe their existence to the enlightenment and public spirit of Richard Browne Clayton, Esq., the resident landlord of the district. Here, indeed, the hand of improvement and civilisation is quite apparent, and even the sterility of the barren rock has yielded to its overpowering mastery; for the young green pine that flourishes in the most ungenial situations can be seen rising out

of the fissures and interstices of the rugged mountain, and giving promise that at no very distant period its coarse and naked crags will be clothed in a verdant mantle. Another very remarkable object is to be seen in this vicinity, which is a handsome and graceful column, that rises from a rocky mount in the centre of a rich plantation, and which was erected by the late General Browne, the father of the present owner of the estate, to commemorate the triumph of the British arms in Egypt, where he served under the renowned chief who fell in the moment of victory. In accordance with the last will of the enthusiastic soldier, on the anniversary of the battle of Alexandria, the British standard may be seen floating from the summit of the pillar, and about the middle of the day is lowered half-mast high, in remembrance of the melancholy fall of the gallant and victorious Sir Ralph Abercromby. This monument, which was raised at the instance of this brave Irishman, himself an officer of fame and distinction, while it will serve to perpetuate the glory of our arms, and the death of a lamented and gallant chief, will also serve as an undying memorial of the ardent attachment of the brave General Browne to his profession, and of his chivalrous devotion to his commander. As the traveller approaches the town of Ross, the country loses its tame appearance, and rich plantations and handsome residences meet the eye. Amongst the most important and remarkable of these are Talbot Hall, in the county of Wexford, and Castle Annaghs, in the county of Kilkenny; while, on each side of the river Barrow interspersed with rich and luxuriant meadows, the golden harvest presented evidence of an abundant yield. I would strongly recommend the tourist, who visits the town of Ross, to avail himself of the advantage afforded him of noticing the magnificent prospect which presents itself from the vicinity of Mount Garrett Castle.

Looking to the right from this point, you can trace the river Nore for a considerable distance, gliding between verdant banks, until it forms a junction with the river Barrow near the

ferry of Mount Garrett, when after this confluence, the united rivers swell into one great whole, which moves along in graceful majesty, and, immediately below the bridge of Ross, forms a capacious harbour capable of accommodating vessels of the largest size and tonnage. To the left, from the same point, the bridge and harbour of Ross form a splendid picture. In this view may be comprised parts of the counties of Wexford and Kilkenny, in which are intermingled mountain, wood, and water, that invest it with a beauty and sublimity rarely to be witnessed. Ross may be considered a rising town. Great accessions to the mercantile business of the port have been caused by the New Harbour Bill, which was introduced and carried through Parliament by the popular member for the borough, John H. Talbot, Esq. There are several enterprising merchants in Ross, amongst whom may be ranked as the foremost the Messrs. Howlett, the Messrs. Graves, Mr. James Browne, &c. These public-spirited gentlemen have, within the last few years, added several large ships to the port. This was rendered a desideratum from the numbers which are every day applying for passages to America. The ships in general are of a large class, their aggregate tonnage exceeding that of the port of Wexford. This town is situated on the eastern bank of the River Barrów, and may be said to extend about a statute mile from north to south : a considerable portion of it lies on the side of an acclivity that rises, somewhat precipitously, above the river ; and, from the peculiarity of its position, can be seen as an interesting object for many miles, especially from that part of the County Kilkenny which lies between it and Waterford. There is a handsome market-house in the centre of the town, from which wide and regular streets branch off at right angles. The parish church is a fine substantial building, and adjoins the ancient Abbey of St. Mary's, a really magnificent ruin. Another small church or chapel of ease has been erected in the south part of the town within the last ten years. The Roman Catholic parish chapel is situated in South Street, and is a handsome

and convenient house of worship. The Friary Chapel, which stands on an eminence in the north section of the town, is a fine new structure ornamented with a neat and handsome tower, surmounted by a light and elegant steeple. The village of Rosbercon, which is on the opposite side of the river, and in the county Kilkenny, lies within the parliamentary boundary of the borough of Ross. Here there is a very nice church with an appropriate residence for the incumbent; and also a plain Roman Catholic chapel. Ross has long been a place of considerable importance, and so early as the year 1572 had a charter of incorporation conferred upon it. The antiquarian can discover, even at this moment, distinct traces of its abbeys, monasteries, priories, and fortifications. The old corporation having been abolished, pursuant to the provisions of the late Irish Municipal Act, in the year 1841, the municipal affairs of the town are now conducted by the Commissioners under the 9th of Geo. IV. An intelligent stranger visiting Ross will discover much that reflects credit on the gentlemen who constitute this body. This may be found in the lighting, watching, and cleansing of the town; and in the labelling of its streets and the numbering of its houses. They are entitled to the more credit for their public spirit in carrying out these improvements, as but little, if any, of the property of the old corporation is at present available for public purposes. The Nunnery, with its beautiful chapel and school, is a very fine feature. The Sessions House and the Union Workhouse attract the notice of the stranger. There are also a couple of houses of charitable foundation, in which a limited number of widows are sheltered and supported. Several landed proprietors reside in this neighbourhood, amongst whom may be mentioned Henry Lambert, Esq., of Carnagh, James Talbot, Esq., and Charles Tottenham, Esq., the owner of the property on which the town stands. The salmon fishery of the Barrow and the Nore has been, from time immemorial, a prolific source of advantage to those who employ themselves in this branch of industry; the fish taken in

these rivers being considered of superior quality and flavour. It is much to be regretted that of latter years the fishery has failed considerably. Those who have given serious consideration to this subject attribute this failure to the injudicious mode of regulating the seasons by those who have been appointed as the conservators of the rivers under the existing law. At this time the potato crop showed unmistakable symptoms of the mysterious blight; but the appearances were more unfavourable in the neighbourhood of Wexford than in Ross. The general appearance of the harvest in this part was but of very middling character, with the exception of the fields on the banks of the river. On the morning of the 6th I proceeded by the steamboat from Ross to Waterford. This short trip is indeed a treat, and the weather being beautifully fine afforded me an opportunity of viewing, at full leisure, the handsome and varied scenery which skirts the banks of this noble river. Leaving the quay of Ross, you at once become struck with the beauty of the rich and pleasing prospects which meet the eye on every side. Mount Garrett and Mount Elliot appear on the one hand, backed by a part of the Black Stairs mountain, that divides the counties of Carlow and Wexford. Chilcoln and the demesne of Annaghs are backed by the fine mountain called Brandon on the Kilkenny side; while Oaklands, Camblin, Stokestown, and Piltown on the Wexford side are graced in the back-ground by the handsome hill called Slievecoiltea. Proceeding down the river, you first fall in with Ringville, the seat of Lady Esmonde, which is a beautiful marine villa, surrounded by a rich lawn extending to the water's edge.

Still farther on, the seat of O'Neil Power, Esq., called Snow Hill, with its fine demesne and princely mansion, displays itself. This house is of modern construction, and cost 15,000*l.*; a similar amount was expended on its furniture and internal decoration. From this part of the river there is also a view of the seat of Nicholas Alfred Power, Esq., called Bellevue, with an equally rich demesne, and a mansion but little inferior to that

just mentioned. Rounding Cheek Point, the tourist becomes gratified by the numerous and picturesque cottages which abound in its vicinity. From this point you have a view of the grand ruin of Dunbrody Abbey, in the county of Wexford, which is of great extent, and one of the finest ruins in this part of Ireland. This magnificent building was erected in the early part of the twelfth century, and was converted into a monastery for the brethren of the Cistercian order. Tourists should not pass without visiting this noted relic of ancient grandeur. Extensive reclamations have been made in the neighbourhood of this abbey, by the spirited resident proprietor, George Powell Houghton, Esq., whereby he has increased his territorial estate, by the addition of some 500 acres, and, at the same time, afforded considerable employment to the surrounding labourers.

The splendid church of the abbey, which is in a state of tolerable preservation, is of the form of a Latin cross, and of lofty and elegant proportions. The length of the nave is 115 feet, the crypt 40 feet, and the central tower 25 feet; making the entire length 180 feet in the clear. The breadth of the nave is 30 feet in the clear, and the aisles 15 feet each, including the buttresses and pilasters. The length of the transepts is 120 feet in the clear, including the central tower, and the breadth 25 feet. The massive tower, with its peaked angles, is supported by immense arches; those which front the nave and the crypt, being of the pointed Gothic character, are higher than those that front the transepts; the latter are of semicircular form, and very beautiful. There are six finely-formed cloisters, three in the eastern wall of each transept, with magnificently groined arches. In the western angle of the north transept, there are spiral stone stairs, whereby the summit of the walls and the tower may be approached. There are four arches on each side of the nave, springing from massive buttresses and pilasters. These noble arches correspond in size and appearance with the grand pointed Gothic arches that support the central tower. The great western window is of immense height, and of elegant appearance,

but it is much to be regretted that one of its two mullions and a part of the arch have fallen. The ruin of this fine church is a thing to be looked upon with feelings of veneration, in which are intermingled admiration and regret. An extensive courtyard lies immediately south of the church; it is 110 feet by 110 in the clear. On the south and east sides of this court stand ranges of buildings about 30 feet in breadth; parts of the front walls have fallen from decay. These buildings, together with others which stood more southwardly, and which the lapse of ages has reduced to ruin, I suppose to have been the dwellings of the brethren of the abbey. At the distance of a furlong on the east of the abbey, and adjacent to the entrance of the rich lawn on which it stands, may be seen a fine ruin, covered with ivy; this I conceive to have been one of the appendages to the monastery. About 150 feet from the south-western angle of the abbey, and near to the high-water-mark of the estuary formed by the influx of the tide, stands an ancient chapel, of limited dimensions, also richly mantled with ivy; it is surrounded by a small burial-ground, which is but little used at present. I noticed two graves, of comparatively recent formation, immediately adjoining the eastern gable; at the head of each stands a small wooden cross, not yet decayed by exposure to the weather.

From the grounds that lie west of the abbey, the fine mansion and demesne of Kilmannock, the seat of George Powell Houghton, Esq., arrest the attention, and command the admiration of the tourist. The rich plantations and extensive lawns of this fine residence, together with the reclaimed lands already mentioned, can be seen to the fullest advantage from this locality. The fort of Duncannon is a pretty thing of the kind; it is situated on the highest part of a handsome sloping mount, which, on the north side, has a downward inclination. On the side of this bank appears a burial-ground of limited extent. The fort is entered by a drawbridge. On each of the piers of the entrance-gate there stands a globular *chevaux-de-frise*. In the centre of the buildings, which consist of the Governor's

house, the residence of the chaplain, the quarters of the officers of the garrison, the barracks of the military, and the several stores, there is a handsome square, which serves as a parade-ground. On the southern extremity, which commands the river, guns are mounted, some of them weigh 77 cwt. each, and throw a ball of 32, or perhaps 40, lbs. A considerable quantity of cannon-shot was heaped in pyramidal forms near to where the guns are planted.

Woodstown, the beautiful marine residence of Lord Carew, can be seen to great advantage from the fort. This fine mansion is nicely situated, and stands on the side of a hill on the Waterford side of the river. It is surrounded by rich plantations, and sheltered from the west, north, and south winds; its front shows to the east, or Wexford side, and, together with its handsome and sloping lawn, forms a splendid picture. Dunbrody Park, the seat of Lord Templemore, is a very fine demesne; its extensive plantations and undulating lawns cannot fail to attract the notice and admiration of the visitor. This demesne is about a mile in length, extending from the Lighthouse of Duncannon, which bounds it on the south, to Arthurstown, by which it is bounded on the north, while the Waterford river forms its western boundary. It is intersected by ample walks and drives, which are open to the public, but dogs are not permitted within the demesne. The house, which, for a nobleman's residence, may be called a handsome Lodge, when seen from the north front, forms three sides of an oblong square. The private entrance, which is in this front, is by glass folding doors. The grand entrance, in the south front, is surrounded by ornamental pleasure-grounds, which have a beautiful appearance as viewed from the drawing and dining-room windows. The drawing-room is a fine apartment, of regular proportions; the decorations and furniture are of a neat and chaste character; the papering a handsome light green, the figuring black. I saw some fine pictures in this room, one of them an excellent likeness of the late Lord Templemore, the father of the present peer, in blue

hussar uniform. The dining-room is an equally fine apartment ; the papering a rich claret-brown and green. Here also are splendid paintings, one a likeness of the late Peer, in a rich scarlet uniform, and one of his present lordship's mother, Lady Templemore. There is also a handsome likeness of the present peer, in plain clothes, and one of the present Lady Templemore. This is a really beautiful picture. Besides these, I noticed a likeness of one of the Ladies Paget ; she is represented in a sitting posture, in the act of caressing a very beautiful dog, the fore-paws of the animal resting on her knees. These are fine specimens of modern painting. From parts of this demesne, the entrance to the Waterford river falls within the observation of the tourist, filling his mind with enlarged ideas of its beauty and extent. .

Passing up the Waterford river from Cheek Point, the mansion of Mr. Power of Faithleg, appears on the Waterford side, surrounded by a rich and extensive demesne ; and on the same side a fine new house lately built by Counsellor Dobbyn. Opposite to the island, which is formed in this river, there is a handsome villa, belonging to Mr. Sweetman, who at present resides in Newfoundland. Mr. Purcell Fitzgerald the owner of the island, resides in the fine ancient castle that stands thereon. The walls and turreted peaks are covered with luxuriant ivy, which adds a dignity and grandeur to this fine remnant of the feudal times. Here also you have a view of the house and grounds that belong to Mr. Mara, agent to the Marquis of Waterford : these grounds are remarkable for all that modern skill can accomplish in the way of agricultural improvement. Again, on the Kilkenny side of the river, may be seen the residence of Mr. Kelly, a very beautiful seat. As you approach the city of Waterford, villas and unique cottages become so numerous, that it would be difficult, as it would be uninteresting, to notice them in detail.

However, the houses of the Messrs. Pope, the grand mansion and demesne called Newpark, formerly the residence of Sir John

Newport, and the height called Mount Misery; together with the Abbey Church on the banks of the Suir; form pictures so prominent as to arrest the immediate attention of the stranger. The number of ships in the harbour of Waterford was, at this time, comparatively small; amongst these I noticed a fine steamer called the "Dublin." Waterford, in many respects, is well worthy of notice; its splendid river, which enables ships of the largest class to approach it at all times of tide, together with its fine situation, making it the outlet for the produce of the counties of Tipperary, Kilkenny, and of its own county, invest it with advantages such as few cities or towns in Ireland can claim. A comparative gloom at present hangs over the trading interests of Waterford, as many of its most eminent merchants have been heavy sufferers by the reaction that has been lately caused by over trading in foreign corn. This, I am sure, can be but temporary, and whenever business shall receive an impulse, Waterford must, as a matter of course, command its share of the benefits. Waterford can boast of one paramount advantage which cannot be equalled in any part of her Majesty's dominions, this is her unrivalled quay, that extends for more than a mile in length, and of a capacious and uniform breadth, lined with handsome and commodious houses, the lower parts of which are generally used as shops. There are some good public buildings in this city; the cathedral is a magnificent structure, with a steeple of lofty and elegant proportions; its internal beauty is quite in keeping with the richness of its exterior; many interesting monuments are to be seen within it. The Roman Catholic church in Barron Strand-street, is a very extensive and beautiful building, second to no church with which I am acquainted; and the new Roman Catholic church which is now being built in Beresford-street, will be, when finished, a very neat and elegant edifice. The Town Hall is a large and commodious structure, and is situated in an open and convenient part of the city. Its several hospitals and charitable institutions, are alike creditable to the benevolence of their founders, and to

those who manage and support them. When the lines of railway that shall connect Waterford with Cork and Limerick are finished, results of considerable importance and advantage may be expected. A brisk trade is carried on with the ports of Bristol and Liverpool, and steamers are engaged in conveying weekly, cattle, pigs, and butter to these ports.

Sailing vessels have been long trading between this port and London, and taking as freight, bacon, and butter. The citizens of Waterford have established for themselves a high character for patriotism, and an ardent attachment to the interests of their native land. The round tower, at present used as a temporary prison, and the adjoining tower, which was part of the building formerly called the French Church, may be looked upon as interesting memorials of the ancient *urbs intacta*. On the morning of the 8th I proceeded to Tramore, a very handsome and popular bathing-place, much frequented by persons from the counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wexford, and, of course, Waterford. The day being exceedingly fine rendered the ride very agreeable; the harvest along this line seemed rather thin and backward, and the potato crop presented about the same appearance which I observed in the neighbourhood of Wexford, where the failure was very general. Tramore was, at this time, very full; and the assemblage, if not very fashionable, was comparatively select and respectable. Its appearance, since I saw it before, about seven years previously, has much improved; in the interim several new houses have been built, and a very handsome church is now in a forward state. There are a few comfortable hotels in this healthful place; one of them is kept by a respectable family of the name of O'Neil, who are also the proprietors of well arranged warm baths. The Doneraile Walk forms a favourite promenade; I saw young and beautiful girls enjoying the pleasures of equestrian exercise, mounted on donkeys and galloping along this walk. The Ladies' Cove is considered a select and, as might be inferred from the name, a sacred retreat. I had but a short time to enjoy the advantage and delight which

this salubrious place affords the sojourner ; and had to regret that circumstances did not permit me to indulge the pleasure and gratification which a lengthened visit could not fail to bestow. I can say with truth, that it would afford me much satisfaction, could I promise myself the luxury of domiciling here for a whole season. The people of business show their good sense in being polite and attentive to strangers.

The Bay of Tramore has long been considered dangerous to navigation, and precautions have been taken to warn ships of their approach to its dreaded shore : a vessel caught within this bay with a southerly wind, if it blew strongly, could scarcely escape shipwreck.

A great loss of life took place here in the year 1816, when a transport ship called the "Sea-horse," while conveying a considerable number of troops, was lost, and with a comparatively limited exception, all on board perished. A monument commemorative of this melancholy event has been erected in the burial-ground of the place. This bay is flanked on the east by Brownstown Head, on which two large towers, seventy feet in height, have been built ; and by which it is contradistinguished from the Hook promontory. It is bounded on the west by Newtown Head ; on this headland three towers of equal height have been erected, the centre of them being surmounted by a colossal figure of a man. This remarkable and distinguishing object can be seen from a great distance, and mariners are thereby apprised of their proximity to this dangerous coast.

Cars are constantly plying between Waterford and Tramore, and those who are desirous of visiting this watering-place, will never have to complain of a want of opportunity to indulge their wish ; the expense too, is very moderate, being but sixpence to Tramore and the same back. Increased facilities will soon be afforded, as a bill has passed through Parliament empowering the Waterford and Tramore Railway Company to construct their line between these two places.

In the year 1839 I had an opportunity afforded me, of seeing

and closely examining the sea shore on the coast of Waterford, from the entrance of the river to the Islands of Keane, which lie west of the Bay of Tramore; having made a pleasure trip in the steamboat "Duncannon," commanded by Captain Bartlett. On this occasion I had the good fortune to sit beside the late lamented Dean Lee, than whom it would be impossible to find a more perfect model of an Irish gentleman, or one who reflected more honour on the land of his birth, or on the clerical profession of which he was so distinguished an ornament. He was familiar with every creek and cave along the entire shore, which is of a bold character, and it was a rich treat to hear him describe each peculiarity by detailing some anecdote that had reference to it. When we arrived at the Bay of Tramore the captain brought the steamer round it in a gentle curve, this he was enabled to do with perfect safety; as the day was calm and the vessel of a light draught of water. While passing round the bay, the good Dean pointed out the place where the "Sea-horse" went ashore, and other particulars in connexion with that distressing circumstance. Here we had a fine view of the bold bluffs called Brownstown Head and Newtown Head, on which, as I before mentioned, warning beacons have been erected.

Arriving at the Islands of Keane, I noticed some peaked grey rocks which were covered with wild sea birds, such as so plentifully abound on the Saltee Islands. Having slowly moved in front of this place we returned to Dunmore, where we stopped to dine, preparation having been made for our accommodation at the new hotel, which had then been but recently built by the Marquis of Waterford. Those on board the steamer dined in separate apartments, this was occasioned by ladies having formed no inconsiderable accession to the company, and as a matter of course, were attached to select and private groups of friends. I sat down with about forty gentlemen who, like myself, had no ladies to protect or wait upon; we were allowed nearly two hours for dinner, and the time was very agreeably spent. The new pier at Dunmore is very strongly built, and

must have cost a large sum of money ; it is much to be regretted that its utility is so very far short of its expense. Proceeding up and down the river of Waterford, I had an opportunity of seeing the principal objects which present themselves from the tower of Hook on the Wexford, and Craven Head on the Waterford side, including Duncannon, which, from the river, appears to be a tolerably strong fort ; Arthurstown, Passage, and Ballyhack. The company on board the steamer, on this occasion, was both numerous and respectable, and numbered amongst it some persons of distinction, including Dean Lee, Sir Benjamin Morris, Lady Morris, Mr. Morris, father to Sir Benjamin, and Captain Morris ; Captain Doyle, and many others whose names I did not learn. On our return from Dunmore, and until we reached the quay of Waterford, the persons on board gave themselves up to the enjoyment of innocent pleasure, and dancing took place in the cabin and on the deck, in which most of the youthful part of the company joined.

Besides the violin player, who attended on speculation, one of the company, Mr. Maurice Lenihan, at that time the editor of the "Waterford Chronicle," brought his violin, and continued to play the entire time for the party in the cabin. Such a day of pleasurable good humour it has never been my lot to witness. Those who were the highest in position made themselves, if possible, the most agreeable. I returned from Tramore in time for dinner, after which I proceeded, by the coach, to Carrick-on-Suir, a very agreeable after-dinner ride. The country, which is rich and fertile, presents, at this season of the year, a very gay and luxuriant appearance. About two miles from Waterford the tourist becomes struck with an extensive ruin called Graney Castle ; before the use of artillery this must have been an impregnable fortress. It formerly belonged to the Earls of Desmond, and subsequently to the Fitzgerald family. The Suir, as viewed from this point, appears a noble river. On the Waterford side of the river there is an extensive prospect, including a portion of Curraghmore, the seat of the Marquis of Waterford ; while on

the Kilkenny side may be had a view of the mansion and extensive pleasure grounds of the Earl of Besborough. The situation of the extensive and beautiful demesne of the Marquis of Waterford is distinguished by a tall and slender tower which stands upon a handsome elevation, and can be seen at a distance of many miles. The flourishing village of Portlaw, so remarkable for its manufacturing establishments, lies at the foot of this hill, and excites feelings of a pleasurable nature in the minds of those who have the welfare of their country at heart. I hope the time will soon arrive when it will cease to be distinguished by its singularity. Piltown, which is on Lord Besborough's property, is a very neat and improving village, everything here wears a fresh and gay appearance, and may, in truth, vie with even an English town of the same class. In this vicinity the lands are particularly rich; the townland of Tiberaughney, which forms the boundary between the counties of Kilkenny and Tipperary, is considered the finest land between Waterford and Cork. Mr. Joseph Rivers resides in Tiberaughney Castle. On entering the county of Tipperary, you immediately fall in with a very beautiful place called Tinvaughan, the seat of Mr. Briscoe. From this to the town of Carrick-on-Suir, the country is rich and studded with plantations. The corn crops bore a most decidedly improved appearance in this locality, while the potato crop, both in Waterford and Carrick, was so slightly damaged as to cause little or no alarm.

The town of Carrick-on-Suir, as its name imports, is situated on the river Suir, which flows through it, leaving a part of the town in the county of Tipperary, and the other part in the county of Waterford. The portion that lies on the Tipperary side, which is the more important part, was formerly called Carrickmore, and that on the Waterford side, Carrickbeg. This may be considered a reasonably good business town, being surrounded by a rich and fertile country. The principal street is long and of sufficient width, and contains within it several good shops. At the end of this street is the entrance to an ancient

castle and demesne, belonging to the Marquis of Ormonde. This is an extensive and interesting ruin. There are, besides the parish church, the chapel, and the nunnery, two other chapels, which are situated in the part called Carrickbeg; one of these belongs to the friars of the order of St. Francis, who have a convent here. The river from Waterford to Carrick-on-Suir is navigable for vessels of light burden; large lighters are constantly plying between these places. The ride from Carrick-on-Suir to Clonmel is surpassingly beautiful; a continued chain of richly-planted hills meets the eye on the Waterford side. Betimes, in the distance, excellent views are obtained of the fine mountain range, called the "Reeks of Kilpatrick." On these hills specimens of the Irish red deer are still to be found, and are much sought after by the higher class of sportsmen. There are also lakes on these mountains, in which fish are to be found, that afford occupation and amusement to the angler. Still farther on, the bold and lofty Cummeraghs meet the eye, while, on the Tipperary side, Slievenamon, or, as it is called, the "Woman's Hill," can be seen to fine advantage. Passing along this line, I noticed the ruins of two ancient castles, one of them called Duff Hill, and the other Poulnakerry. In this vicinity appears the fine old seat of Mr. Wall, called Coolnamuck, with its large mansion and beautiful demesne; and still farther on, the house and demesne of Churchtown. Advancing onwards, the traveller becomes struck with the rich and extensive demesne of Landscape, opposite to which the Marquis of Waterford's property, which extends in a continuous line from the sea-shore, terminates. Still farther on, you approach the extensive and really beautiful seat called Gurteen, the property and residence of Mr. Power. This gentleman is married to a daughter of the late Sir John Power of Kilfane, the celebrated sportsman, who was, for many years, the master of the Kilkenny Hunt. An extraordinary story prevails in reference to this marriage. Mr. Power, being on a visit to Sir John, happened one evening to go into the drawing-room rather suddenly, and found the lady to whom he

is now married, and some other ladies, playing at cards. When he entered, they seemed confused, and a kind of suppressed titter was evident amongst them. He inquired what the stake was for which they were playing; they refused to tell him, but said they would inform him when the game should be over. The lady to whom he is married became the winner of the game, and the stake for which they played he found was himself. He accordingly took the hint, and the next morning made his proposals to Sir John, was accepted, and was married immediately; thus proving that matters, which are sometimes commenced in jest, may ultimately turn out to be realities. His lady retains her father's predilection for field sports, and may frequently be seen following the chase, and sometimes fishing, with her husband. For beauty and extent, as well as for the advantage of wood and water, it would be difficult to find a more pleasant and agreeable residence than Gurteen.

Alas! what a melancholy change has taken place in this once happy home since I made this note. What are all its beauties now to the afflicted wife of a truly unfortunate husband, who, by his rash and maniac hand, has hurried himself out of existence; and thus left all who were endeared to him, by the ties of love and friendship, to suffer unmitigated misery. One noble heart, it is generally believed, fell a sacrifice to this terrible and afflicting calamity; that of his too sensitive step-father, the highly-gifted Richard Lalor Sheil, being crushed and broken when the news of this awful and distressing event reached him. It is with feelings of regret that I advert to a subject so absorbingly painful; and, were it not that public notoriety has drawn the fullest attention to the sad event, I should certainly not make allusion to it here. I would rather burn my notes a dozen times over than be instrumental in causing a single pang to the lacerated and widowed heart of his bereaved and greatly to be commiserated lady, or to any other member of his distressed and respected family.

Near to the village of Kilshelan, a very beautiful bridge, called "Sir John's Bridge," crosses the Suir. It was built by

Sir John Osborne, at his own expense, and consequently bears his name. Advancing onwards, you soon fall in with the celebrated Osborne estate, which is at once rich, extensive, and highly ornamented. Mr. Bernal, who is an Englishman of German descent, assumed the family name on his marriage with Miss Osborne, and is now the owner of this extensive property. His lady is exceedingly popular and much beloved; she is kind, benevolent, and charitable. She has recently built a very handsome school-house, on a plan designed by herself, and in which a large number of girls receive the benefit of a good and useful education.

CHAPTER VIII.

CLONMEL; AND OTHER TOWNS IN THE SOUTH OF IRELAND.

Soon after passing the Osborne estate you approach Clonmel, or, as it has been called, the "Honey Vale." It is a handsome town of comparatively modern appearance, and must have been, when the country was prosperous, a fine business place: even now, amid the desolation and poverty that pervade the country, it may be said to be well off. The markets are very well supplied with butter, corn, cattle, pigs, and bacon. I was told by a butter-merchant with whom I conversed on the altered state of the times, that some years ago so large a sum as 150,000*l.* was paid in a single day in the town of Clonmel for the several articles of marketable produce just recited. There may have been some exaggeration in this statement; but from the admirable situation of the town, surrounded as it is by a rich country, one can very well suppose that large sums change hands on certain fair and market days. In this place there are large mills

and stores, principally situated on the banks of the river Suir, which runs beside the town. Large lighters are constantly employed conveying butter, bacon, corn, and flour to Waterford, from which they are shipped to Bristol and other English ports. The public buildings, in general, are of the ordinary class, with nothing remarkably striking to arrest the traveller's attention: the streets may be called regular, and the shops good. I had the honour of an interview with the Mayor, Moses Kenny, Esq., a most intelligent and gentlemanly man: he is exceedingly popular, and was re-elected to his high office on the subsequent year. I had also the honour of an interview with the Very Rev. Dr. Burke, the parish priest of Clonmel and vicar-general of the diocese. This dignitary is a man of most refined and elegant manners, with an unmistakable intellectuality about him which at once commands reverence and respect. The harvest in the neighbourhood of Clonmel wore a cheering and promising appearance, and some fields near the town were falling beneath the sickle. The potatoes were of excellent quality, and the inhabitants of Clonmel were surprised to hear such bad accounts as I, reluctantly, had to communicate regarding this essential portion of the food of the people. Immediately after dinner on Saturday, the 9th, I started for Caher, the ride to which, over a fine level road of eight miles in length, was at once pleasant and exhilarating. The next day being Sunday I remained at the Glengall Arms Hotel, kept by Mr. Cusack. This is a good and well-conducted establishment; the members of the family, as well as the servants, are kind and obliging. Caher, for its size, is a remarkably clean and neat town; the houses in the principal streets are new and handsome. I suppose it owes this advantage to the circumstance of Lord Glengall being the owner of the property on which the town stands. The noble earl has a handsome house in the town in which he resides when he visits this part of Ireland. The church is a very neat building. There is also a fine new Catholic chapel here, with a nice steeple: it is somewhat in the style of Carlow Cathedral, but

of course not so large nor so elaborately finished. The form is that of a T, with a gallery in each wing as well as in the body of the chapel: the voice of the clergyman can be distinctly heard in every part of it. There was some excellent singing during divine service, the voices in the choir being sweet and, betimes, powerful. The market-place, which is in front of Cusack's Hotel, forms an oblong square of considerable extent, with a handsome Sessions House at one end of it. It is really a very fine town of its class. Lord Glengall's residence is near the entrance to his extensive and beautiful demesne, from which it is divided by the river Suir, which runs beneath it and forms a pleasing and sublime picture. One of the entrances to his lordship's demesne presents a most formidable appearance. It consists of a large court or baronial keep, flanked by four small castles and an equal number of round towers, which form a strong and imposing defence, and give it all the appearance of a place in a state of siege. Upon its ramparts several six-pounders are mounted, while sentinels are placed at two or three different points. A company of infantry is stationed within this fortress, for which it constitutes a barrack. A large spread eagle, which forms a distinguishing feature in the Glengall arms, surmounts the entrance gate. At my request the sentinel stationed at this gate permitted me to enter. I found the military polite and attentive: some of them pointed out the different peculiarities which characterise the place, such as subterranean descents and secret modes of retreat. These reminded me of the descriptions which are to be found in the works of Mrs. Ratcliffe and other writers of romance.

Having viewed the fortress, I walked through the rich demesne, and was much disappointed to find that there was not a large and characteristic mansion to be found within its precincts. However, there is a neat and elegant cottage surrounded by pleasure-grounds, containing about eight acres, which are intersected by fine walks and ornamented with every variety of tree, shrub, and flower. Here fashionables resort, even from a great distance,

to hold pic-nic parties. A party, consisting of three hundred ladies and gentlemen, were to assemble on the Monday I left for a similar enjoyment. Lady Glengall is very popular. The poor are constantly praying for her return, and will hail her, on her arrival, as their best benefactress. His lordship has no son, and but two daughters, whose fortunes will be very large. Looking northward from the bridge that spans the river, and near to the above-mentioned entrance, there is a fine picturesque view not unlike what may be seen from the bridge at Enniscorthy, but of greater extent and still greater beauty. The river, branching east and west, here, also, forms an island richly planted with fruit and forest trees, which present a very pleasing and agreeable aspect. Near the bridge there are extensive mills belonging to the Messrs. Sarjint, which appear to be spiritedly worked. The Cavalry Barracks are situated about a mile from the town: three troops were stationed in them at this time. The Gaol stands about a furlong apart from the town, and presents a remarkably handsome appearance. Its southern angle is flanked by a fine modern tower, surmounted by a flag-staff; while the remainder of the boundary wall, which forms a square, is finished in a neat castellated style: one would never imagine it to be a prison. The works of the Waterford and Limerick Railway are going on here, but are not spiritedly carried out. This is much to be regretted, as the people complain of distress, arising, principally, from want of employment. The line will cross one of the streets: the abutments of the bridge or arch over which it is intended to pass are now in a forward state. While here I enjoyed a great luxury, which was that of the delicious water that is to be found in this neighbourhood. At twelve o'clock on Monday morning I ran on from Caher to Cashel. The ride to this place is not very interesting, the country being tame and unvaried in its aspect: there are, however, some redeeming features, namely, the splendid mountain views which, in the distance, present themselves to the tourist. On one side Slievenamon; on the other

the long, lofty, and grand group, the Mountains of Lismore; and, in addition to these, the Scruth or Caher Mountains. Passing onward, I noticed Rockwell Castle, the seat of the Rowe family, one of whom was murdered a few years ago within his own demesne: a man named Lonergan was convicted and executed for this murder.

Arriving at Cashel, which, notwithstanding its high name and venerable character, appears to be a poor place, I stopped at Ryall's Hotel, an old and respectable establishment, but which, like the city itself, shows unmistakeable symptoms of change, and that, I regret to say, not for the better. The principal street in Cashel is long and wide, in which there are several shops, some of them tolerably extensive; the owners of them were sadly complaining of want of business. There appeared to be much poverty in the backward streets of the city. There is a curious and ancient structure in the principal street, called the "Clock Castle." Cashel is, evidently, a very ancient place, and, from its general appearance, must, at one time, have been of considerable importance. I spent but a comparatively brief period in viewing the city, being desirous, with as little delay as possible, to hasten to the celebrated Rock. The first feeling that took possession of my mind on reaching the summit of the far-famed Rock, was admiration of the ample prospect which presents itself from this elevation. The evening was clear, and the sun being near its setting threw a bright and golden glow upon the beautiful and extensive landscape, in which were included the Caher and Lismore mountains; the rich and justly celebrated "golden vein" that runs through part of the counties of Limerick and Tipperary; Lord Hawarden's seat, called Ballysheedy Castle, near the Dundrum railway station; and the place called the Devil's Bit, a mountain pass, which is situated near Templemore. The whole of this view comprises a circuit of many miles, and contains within it some of the finest land in this proverbially fertile country. I shrink from attempting a description of this

celebrated ruin; I was struck with wonder as I gazed upon its grand and varied architectural beauties. I could linger there for days, nay weeks, and would find ample occupation for my mind, if allowed, without interruption, to muse and meditate amid its renowned relics. Civilisation must have been far advanced when this glorious structure was designed and executed; even in its present desolate state, it affords ample attestation of the genius of the age, of which it stands the mute, but eloquent monument. The breaches, caused by the recent fall of part of the ruin, are now being repaired. Fragments of the dense wall are still lying about; it is much more easy to sever the marble rock, than to break or separate these strongly cemented masses. My attention was first directed to a rude image of Saint Patrick, on the base of which the kings of Munster were wont to be crowned; next to the Vicars Choral; and then to King Cormac's Chapel; he was Bishop of Cashel as well as King of Munster. My attention was next drawn to the fine and large east window, the arch of which has been blown down. I next noticed the splendid remains of the great church and belfry; the round tower; the round or north window; and the castle part or King's residence. A fine well has been discovered about two years since, by workmen who were employed in making excavations; the water is said to be of the rarest quality. This is supposed to have been the well that supplied the castle with water, as it lies beneath the wall of the ruin. I now viewed the west end, noticing the great cannon-hole, which is of circular form. The extent of the ground occupied by the ruin cannot be less than two acres. Hoare Abbey, a renowned structure, stands at some distance beneath the Rock; it is an object of curiosity principally on account of its grand and magnificent arch. Returning from the Rock I noticed the Bishop's Palace, which is at present unoccupied. Adjacent to the Palace, and immediately adjoining the town, stands the ruin of an old building called St. Dominick's Abbey. I also took notice of the Protestant church and Roman Catholic

chapel; but there is no remarkable feature in connexion with either.

Arriving at the hotel, I had a very comfortable dinner, including some excellent potatoes, and was happy to find that here, as well as in other parts of the south, that vegetable had suffered but little damage. At half-past eight o'clock, I left Cashel by the coach for Gould's Cross, for the purpose of proceeding by the railway to Thurles. About half-way between Cashel and the railway station, a boy mounted the coach and told the guard, a young lad about his own age, of a rescue which had taken place near to where we then were. He stated that Mr. Power of Cashel, who is the owner of the race-course, seized about a dozen cows belonging to the two Misses Kehoe of Lafina, and had them under the care of some half-dozen bailiffs, and about the same number of police constables. The brother-in-law of the tenants made overtures to arrange and adjust the business; but the result would seem to warrant the supposition that it was only to gain time to collect a sufficient number of the peasantry, to prevent the cattle from being taken away. As the boy stated, the brother-in-law, who is the poor-rate collector, brought with him a number of persons, exceeding a hundred, when a sort of running fight or scramble took place between the people and the police, from mid-day till after eight o'clock in the evening, about which time the country people succeeded in obtaining the arms of the police, and consequently, drove away the cattle. Having expressed my fears that the people who were engaged in this illegal transaction, would be identified by the constabulary and arrested, he said that there was not the least danger of the police giving information on particular persons; for, as their stations were so distant from each other, they might be made to suffer if they did so. I also said that, as a matter of course, the poor-rate collector would be dismissed; whereupon he said there was no danger of that, as the guardians would not be able to get any other person to collect the rates if they dismissed him. I cannot say whether

the whole or any part of the above tale be true, as I had no opportunity of hearing anything further regarding the transaction; but if it were as he stated, I suppose the Tipperary newspapers must have noticed it. I am quite sure that the facts were distorted and exaggerated, but there was such an air of sincerity about the youth as was calculated to bring conviction to the mind of the most incredulous. He seemed to enjoy the circumstance as a real god-send, and the raciness of his manner, while detailing it, was such as to be quite at variance with what one could expect to find in a person of his age, who was the conscious fabricator of such a tale. My own opinion is, that a seizure such as he described, did actually take place; and, that after a great deal of time was consumed in huxtering about the matter, it was at length, at least for that time, settled. Many of the gleanings of way-side wanderers and fashionable tourists are, like the above story, liable to much doubt and uncertainty; those who for momentary gratification and amusement make notes and observations, are subject to be imposed upon by ignorant and incompetent persons, or by such as are possessed of active imaginations, and whose conclusions are more the result of their own wishes and fancies than of truth; and thus information so acquired becomes committed to paper, whereby, not unfrequently, the character of the people is misrepresented, and the country unjustly stigmatised. Having arrived at Gould's Cross, I took the train for Thurles, which I reached at twelve o'clock, and put up for the night at Boyton's Hotel, where excellent accommodation may be obtained.

Thurles, for its size, can be called a good town; the principal street is long and very wide; the Market House stands in the centre of this street, and yet the space which runs on either side of it, is wider than the Main Street of Wexford.

At the east end of the Main Street stands the ruin of an old castle called the Bridge Castle, with a large quadrangular keep; and, at the west end, another castle of similar character, surrounded by an ancient moat; this is called Gatna-Garlock

Castle. The underneath part of the Market House is used as shambles, and the room above is let for purposes of amusement; the American serenaders arrived and were to exhibit there on the evening of the day on which I left. The property on which the town stands belongs to Count Chabôt, who is the representative of the Matthew family; his agent is Mr. Cahill, an attorney.

In Thurles there is a neat, though small, Protestant church, surrounded by a wall, within which are handsome trees and ornamental shrubs. The Catholic church here is a handsome building, of moderate dimensions, its form is that of a T; it is finished in a chaste and elegant manner; the altar is considered one of the finest, for its size, in Ireland. On each side of the altar there is a fine painting; that of the Redeemer being on one side, and the Virgin and Child on the other. Carpenters were at work, preparing a railed-in space for the accommodation of the dignitaries at the approaching Synod. In the vicinity of the chapel are Convents of the Ursuline and Presentation orders. The residence of the Archbishop adjoins the chapel, and is immediately opposite to the entrance-gate of the College.

The College, which stands at the extremity of an extensive lawn, about a furlong distant from the entrance gate, is a large and substantial structure. In the grand front there are 62 windows, and about the same number in the rear; in the north gable 24, and in the south gable 12. I paced the whole extent of this fine building, and found that it measures 260 feet in front; the north gable 136 feet, and the south gable 68 feet. An additional wing has recently been built, by which the north gable became enlarged; this will account for the difference of the area between that and the south. A similar addition will soon be made to the south gable, which will render the whole building perfectly uniform. Internally, it affords ample accommodation. There are 34 students' rooms in each of its several corridors; the Refectory is capable of dining 300 persons; the illustrious O'Connell was once entertained in this room. There

are six class-rooms, each of them affording studying accommodation to 64 students. The Library is extensive, but not entirely filled with books; however, this is not wonderful, as it is a comparatively new institution, and supported without the aid of a public grant. A large and lofty room was, at this time, being prepared in the College as a private chapel, for the use of the Bishops during the Synod. The trimmings and decorations were of crimson velvet and gold. A pair of large and beautiful eagles, of cast metal, and a small-sized bell, had just arrived, which were manufactured by Mr. James Sheridan, Eagle Foundry, 163, Christ Church-street, Dublin. The eagles have been placed on the piers of the entrance gate, and have a very handsome effect. In the Hall stand several fine busts; one of his Holiness Pope Pius IX.; one of the Liberator; one of Dr. Doyle; one of Dr. Kenny, the celebrated Jesuit; a full-length figure of St. Patrick, and also figures of the Virgin and Child; one of St. Joseph; and classical figures of Shakspeare and Milton. It was no inconsiderable drawback to the pleasure I otherwise enjoyed, that I could not remain in Thurles, to witness the sacred ceremonies of the important Synod which was soon to open there, but an engagement of a very particular nature required my presence in Clonmel on the Wednesday following. I left Thurles by the new line of road leading to Clonmel, passing the seat of Nicholas Maher, Esq., M.P. for the county. About four miles from Thurles, I observed a ruin called Macarkey, consisting of a castle and an old court-yard; and, still farther on, an old ruin called Grala Castle. I also noticed New Park, the residence of Captain Pennefather; and soon after Mobarna, the seat of Samuel Jacobs, Esq., a rich old place. I saw some good stock and equally fine sheep there.

In this neighbourhood is situated a very nice seat called Arsola, the property of George Gough, Esq., the nephew of Lord Gough. This is the birth-place of that distinguished soldier. Still nearer to Fethard is situated Coolmore, the residence of Mr. Sankey. The demesne is extensive and well

wooded. Here, also, I noticed the fine house and demesne called Durryleskin, the property of Colonel Paliser. Fethard is a moderately-sized village, of an ancient appearance, not unlike Taghmon, in the county Wexford. The ride, thence to Clonmel, is very pleasant, leading through a rich country, which occasionally presents to the view hills, tastefully planted, that, at this season of the year, appear to the greatest advantage. About three miles from Clonmel, there is a handsome bridge, crossing a deep valley, called the "Albert Bridge," built by grand-jury presentment, in the year 1840. It consists of a single arch, and, in character and appearance, reminded me of the splendid bridge, built by Mr. Thomas Willis, at Carrigmenane, in the county Wexford. It bears the following inscription:—"To John Bagwell, Esq., foreman; Samuel Jones, Esq., C. E., &c., county surveyor." I arrived in Clonmel for the second time, on the evening of Tuesday, the 18th, and having dined, waited on the friends with whom I had the engagement, which was the cause of my second visit thus early to that place. The best account, as regarded the potato crops, prevailed in Thurles, and of the crops in general there were no complaints; while in Clonmel, the prospects were equally cheering. On this my second visit to this important town, I had a better opportunity of noticing its enviable situation. It is sheltered from the south and east winds by a long and lofty range of hills, which is known by the general designation of Knocklucas. The ancient Commons of the corporation of Clonmel extended about four miles along the side of this range; one-half lying east and the other west of the town. Like the property of most other corporate towns in Ireland, it has been let on long leases at nominal rents, and is therefore not very productive to the present municipal body. The river Suir flows through the valley that lies between the foot of the mountain and the town, and renders substantial service to the mercantile interests; its power being available for milling purposes. On the banks of this river, villas and handsome cottages have been erected, and are occupied for the most part

by opulent merchants and traders. On this occasion, I looked into some of the public buildings, and found them by no means devoid of interest. The Protestant church, called St. Mary's Abbey, which is situated in the centre of the ancient burial-ground of the town, is a fine remnant of the antique style of architecture. It is heavy and massive in its general character, the arches that divide the nave from the aisles particularly so. The east or altar end is enriched with fine Gothic groinings; the window of beautiful stained glass. This is an object every way worthy of admiration. The western window is also of stained glass, but is partially obscured by the organ. An octagon tower stands south of the eastern gable of the church, based on a platform of massive masonry, supported by strong buttresses. The churchyard is surrounded by an ancient wall, in many parts of which niches are formed, wherein tasteful monuments have been erected; it is intersected by neat walks, and much used as a promenade by the respectable inhabitants. The Roman Catholic church of the parish is a convenient house of worship; its form is that of a T, with galleries in each transept, as well as in the body of the church. A large congregation can be accommodated within it. The altar is very rich in its appearance—the organ sweetly toned—the tower and steeple very beautiful. A very handsome schoolhouse, of ample dimensions, has lately been erected in this part of the parish, under the immediate inspection of Dr. Burke. The education of the children is conducted by members of the Christian Brothers' Society. In a more recent visit, I found that in that part of Clonmel, called the Irish Town, a fine new Catholic church has been built under the care and supervision of the Rev. John Baldwin, the parish priest of St. Mary's. The internal parts are not entirely finished.

This is a very extensive and commodious building; the residence of the reverend gentleman, and the schoolhouse of his parish, immediately adjoin it. This church is of a strong and substantial character, ornamented externally with beautiful

pilasters of the Ionic order; its length is 135 feet in the clear, by 40 feet in breadth. The transepts 90 feet in the clear, and also 40 feet in breadth; the height to the wall-plate 50 feet, and to the ridge of the roof, 60 feet; the tower will be 130 feet. The entire cost, up to the present, is over 5000*l*. The chapel of the Franciscan Friars is of long standing, and adjoins an ancient tower, which is in a state of tolerable preservation. The situation of the jail is somewhat secluded, and therefore it does not fall fully within the observation of the casual visitor. The Court House may be called a handsome building, and is conveniently situated. While in this vicinity, I noticed the Victoria House, an extensive warehouse, established by an enterprising speculator, Mr. M'Sweeny. There are fifty persons, young men and women, engaged in attending the visitors to this establishment. There are fine military barracks here; a commodious parade-ground lies in front of the infantry barrack. On a part of this ground a very neat church has recently been erected for the use of the military, and a school-house for the education of their children. The artillery barrack stands at a short distance from that of the infantry. A new and extensive poor-house is at present being built in Clonmel. At that part of the town called the West Gate, you pass from the main street to the Irish Town, beneath a capacious arch of an elliptic Gothic character, the dimensions 27 feet by 18. A neat and peculiar building, of a castellated character, and of three stories in height, stands above, and is supported by this arch. This building is ornamented on its north-western angle by a light and handsome tower—its effect to a stranger is at once novel and pleasing. The importation of French and American flour has operated greatly to the prejudice of the milling interests of this country, and Clonmel has suffered considerably thereby. Still, notwithstanding this drawback to its local trade, there are few towns in Ireland, with the exception of Belfast, more favourably circumstanced at present.

On Wednesday, I started for Tipperary, which I reached that

evening by nine o'clock, and stopped at Mr. Richard Dobbyn's hotel; to him I had reference from his brother, who keeps the Commercial Buildings hotel in Waterford; he received me very kindly, and made me very comfortable while I remained at his house. Tipperary has few prominent objects to attract the notice of the traveller, it consists of one long and tolerably wide street, in which there is a small market-house. The Protestant church is comparatively plain, and the Roman Catholic chapel still more so; the houses, in general, are small, and destitute of ornament; the shops are numerous, and have the appearance of reasonably good business, being well stocked with the several commodities in which their proprietors respectively trade.

Thursday the 15th of August, being a holiday, and the market-day of the town, caused a large number of persons from the surrounding district to congregate for the purpose of attending divine worship, and for the ordinary purpose of making market. On this occasion the place was densely crowded; I have never seen, even on a fair day, so large an assemblage in the town of Wexford. The shops were filled with purchasers, and, although as I have before stated, they are not so showy as similar establishments in larger towns, I incline to the belief that they command a remunerative quantity of business. The appearance of the people who attended the market was plain, but, for the most part, comfortable, and their conduct business-like and orderly. In Tipperary, as in Clonmel, I saw excellent beef and mutton; I had some of the latter meat in Tipperary, and thought it most delicious.

By the railway train which leaves Tipperary at two o'clock, I this day started for Mallow. At the Ballykisteen station I had a view of Lord Stanley's property and residence; he bears the name of being a good landlord. From this locality I obtained an excellent view of the Gaulteemore Mountain, the second highest in Ireland, and which divides the counties of Cork and Tipperary. In the neighbourhood of this mountain lies the too celebrated "Glen of Aharllow," which has long been considered

the most notorious district for violence and outrage in all Tipperary. On entering the county of Cork, fine mountain views present themselves, although of a subdued character as compared with the Gaultees. One of these mountains is called Ballinavorney, from which runs a chain of some miles connecting it with another called Black Rock, the whole forming a range at once diversified and picturesque. On this route we passed Charleville, a pretty little town, and, still farther on, Buttevant, in which there are large military barracks.

At four o'clock I arrived in Mallow, a very clean and handsome town situated in the centre of richly-planted and finely-cultivated hills. I stopped at O'Brien's hotel, where I noticed considerable bustle, numbers of respectable strangers were every day arriving, on their way to the Lakes of Killarney. O'Brien being the driver of the day-coach which runs from Mallow to Killarney, derives no inconsiderable advantage from that circumstance, as it enables him to obtain customers for his hotel. Some of the visitors remain here for a short time to drink of the renowned Spa, which, a few years ago, was very popular.

After dinner I walked forth to a neat cottage which adjoins the well, where a servant attends with nice drinking vessels, and partook of this celebrated water; it feels warm to the taste, but is not so strongly impregnated with iron as our own old Spa, which was formerly open to the public at a place called the "Green Walks," now the play-ground of the Wexford Diocesan School.

The Mallow Spa is not so much used as formerly, and the town has suffered accordingly. For many years invalids and delicate persons were wont to take lodgings for the season, with a view of deriving benefit from its real or fancied medicinal properties. All the water to be had in the town partakes of this strong mineral flavour, and is by no means grateful to the palate of the stranger. As the inhabitants have ceased to derive profit from the Spa, it were well if they could exchange it for a water more pure and agreeable to the taste. I think that the magnified

advantages and qualities of Spas in general, are losing their magical influence with the public, who are beginning to discover that the potent and healing powers connected with such establishments consist more in the air and exercise which are superinduced by visiting them, than in their mineral properties. The facility now afforded by cheap excursions on the railway lines, will soon be found to possess more health-giving qualities than even the waters of Bristol, Bath, or Harrowgate. Mallow, like most of the small towns in the south, has a long and wide main-street, with an ample flagged-way on each side. The houses are good, and the shops large and very respectable; the whole presenting the appearance of comparative prosperity. There is one peculiarity here, of which I cannot approve: the windows, in many of the drawing-room stories, project considerably, some of them bowed and some plain, whereby the fronts must be weakened, and the walls rendered liable to imbibe damp; but taken altogether, it is one of the nicest country towns I have seen during my tour. The church is a handsome building, with a fine steeple; the Catholic chapel, which immediately adjoins it, is a plain building, with a very neat grave-yard in the rear. Mallow Castle, with its magnificent demesne, is a very beautiful residence; it is the seat of Sir Denham Norreys, M.P. for the borough, and is situated on the banks of the Blackwater. Fairy Hill, the residence of Robert Delacour, Esq., and Mount Watts, the residence of Captain Williamson, are both handsome places. Mr. Longfield, who is the owner of considerable property in this neighbourhood, resides in a large mansion, surrounded by a demesne, at once extensive and richly planted. The bridge of Mallow is a fine structure, consisting of seventeen arches, under which flows the Blackwater; while, at a short distance from it, a very neat and light railway bridge, of ten arches, crosses the same river. On this evening I went to an entertainment, which was given in the Assembly Rooms of the town, by the "Hutchinson Brothers," for the benefit of the Sisters of Mercy's charity. It was

numerously and respectably attended. Amongst the fashionable part of the audience I noticed the two Misses Braddell and their brother ; Mrs. O'Connor, the lady of Mr. O'Connor, the solicitor, and her interesting children ; with a number of others of apparent respectability. The Rev. Mr. Macartney received the money at the entrance, and the Charity was enhanced by the proceeds of the evening's performance. A circumstance of an unpleasant nature occurred on this evening—a ruffian in the gallery having made use of a vile expression, and mentioned, at the same time, the name of a lady then in the select part of the house ; however, the unpleasant part of the business was soon merged in the gratification that was felt by the audience on witnessing the summary punishment which was inflicted on the scoundrel. Never did Irish gallantry display itself in a more signal manner than in this instance ; the words were scarcely out of the villain's mouth, when a hundred hands were at his throat, and he was hurled instantaneously to the foot of the stairs leading to the gallery. Filled with affright and alarm, he ran to Father Macartney for protection and succour, and begged pardon for the offence he had committed ; but the indignant clergyman gave him a warm reception, by belabouring him with a stick which he carried ; however, he saved him from the further chastisement of the excited audience.

“ I could have hugged the greasy rogues, they pleased me ” by the manly spirit they manifested on the occasion. On the morning of the 16th I left Mallow for Fermoy ; about five miles from Mallow I noticed Monona Castle, the seat of Mr. Barry. While in this neighbourhood I was informed of the following circumstance, which affords the strongest evidence of the increasing destitution of the country.

In the parish of Glenville, not far from this place, and one of the largest in Ireland, the parish priest was under the necessity of withdrawing from the district ; the whole of his parishioners having either emigrated or become paupers. Notwithstanding its great extent, it appears that there are not

more than three or four substantial farmers now remaining in it. About half-way between Mallow and Fermoy, our horse having cast a shoe, we stopped at a smith's forge to have it replaced; this man is a tenant to Edward Beatty, Esq., Healthfield, in the county of Wexford, who is the owner of a good deal of property in this neighbourhood. There is a very nice house and demesne here called Clifford, which belong to him; Mr. Furlong of Fermoy is his agent, and his tenants are considered as amongst the most comfortable in that part of the country. Kilcomer House, near the bridge of that name, and Bridgetown Abbey, a fine ruin, are the property of Captain Mansergh, who lately resided at Longgrague, in the County Wexford. Our horse being shod, the poor fellow refused to take payment when he found I was from Wexford and knew his landlord; of course I did not take advantage of his generosity. Near this place we passed by Rockforest, the seat of James Laurel Cotter, Esq., which is a handsome residence, and not far from it is Castle Wigmore, a very pretty place; and, also, Castletown Roche, the seat of the late Captain Smith, who, unhappily, some time since committed suicide. While here I had a fine view of a group of mountains, the first of which is called Ballinacoola, on the top of this mountain an obelisk has been erected by Captain Russell. The second is called Ballinagreeshy Hill, the third Cloughwillagh, one of the Nagle Mountains; and the fourth and fifth called Milawn, which also belong to the Nagle group. These mountains take their name from the family of Nagle, who resided in a castle called Carrigahona, at present occupied by Mr. Foot, and situated at the foot of the said mountains. The crops in this neighbourhood appeared thin and light, and were very backward, scarcely a single field had been reaped at the time I made this note; up to that time the potatoes had escaped very well.

Approaching the village of Ballyhoola, I had an excellent view of the Earl of Listowel's grand castle and extensive demesne. Five hundred acres of a beautiful wood lie opposite

to the castle, and slope gently downward to the river, which runs beneath and in front of the castle on this side. This is a really beautiful residence; the castle has a noble appearance, and possesses all the concomitant advantages which the richest lawns, wood and water, can bestow. Ringa, the property of Mr. Smith, which lies opposite to Lord Listowel's castle, is a very rich and handsome place, and is at present up for sale. The Rev. Mr. Gabbett, Dr. Egan, and Mrs. Atkin have handsome seats in this vicinity.

Approaching towards Fermoy I was called on to notice Castle Hyde, an old and far-famed demesne; it is said that Lord Gough is about to purchase it for a permanent residence. This seat has long been considered as a place eminently beautiful, and rural minstrels have tuned their rustic lyres to sing in praise of its unrivalled richness; and in truthful, if not in elegant versification, have endeavoured to mark their high appreciation of its fine natural scenery. Effusions like these, however humble, serve to show how strikingly prominent are its beauties, when the unsophisticated lovers of nature were so deeply impressed and inspired by them. This, indeed, would be an appropriate resting-place for him who may be justly called the "bravest of the brave;" where, reposing upon the laurels obtained in many a well-fought field, and enjoying the confidence and affection of a warm-hearted people, who are disposed to look on him as the God of their idolatry, he may cultivate the arts of peace, and teach his docile neighbours and dependents the useful discipline of practical industry. All this can readily be accomplished by one whose bravery and well-known humanity would enable him to exercise a salutary influence both as a landlord and a magistrate. While in the immediate vicinity of his birthplace, I took some pains to ascertain what were the feelings entertained by the people of the district regarding him, and was gratified beyond measure to find that they were enthusiastic in his praise. I heard of several young men, some of them the sons of tenants of his family, who joined the army

under his command, in the hope that he would befriend them, nor were they disappointed in their expectations, for, amid the care and responsibility of his high charge, the glorious chief still found leisure to notice, to serve, and to promote them ; and it is recorded, to his immortal honour, that he never turned his back on a Tipperary-man. I hope it is not presumptuous to say, that acts of kindness like these, extended to his humble fellow-countrymen, have, even in this life, met with their reward ; and that in the crisis of his fate, when a harsh world was pouring the vituperation of a rash judgment on his acts, an Almighty and approving Providence was graciously pleased to turn the tide of battle in his favour, and thereby enabled him to look down with contempt on the puny efforts of his ungenerous assailants. There is a neat church adjoining this property. Soon after passing this fine seat I arrived at Fermoy, and stopped at Mr. Cahill's hotel, to whom I had reference from his brother, Mr. J. B. Cahill of Clonmel.

Fermoy is the neatest and most regular town which has fallen under my notice, during my tour through the south of Ireland ; and I think I may very safely say, it is equal to any town of its extent in her Majesty's dominions. There is a handsome square in the centre of the town, surrounded by neat and tastefully-built houses, of an uniform character, while the shops are laid out with all the care and artistic skill which may be seen in the larger towns and cities. The river Blackwater flows through the town, passing under a handsome bridge, consisting of sixteen or seventeen arches, and adds considerably to the pleasing impressions that take possession of the mind of the traveller, when he for the first time beholds what in this poor country may be considered a rare gem. On an eminence opposite the bridge stands a neat building, which, upon inquiry, I found was a convent of the Presentation Order ; it is a conspicuous and very handsome object. The military barracks, a large and regular range of buildings, are capable of accommodating a considerable number of troops—there were 1100 men lodged within them at this

time, the 49th Regiment having been congregated here, preparatory to its going abroad. I saw Captain Mansergh in Fermoy, who seemed very glad to see me, and made inquiries concerning many of his Wexford friends.

Leaving Fermoy for Cork, it was my good fortune to have for a fellow-traveller to that city the Rev Mr. Horgan, the parish priest of Ballincollig, who, with all the blandness which so eminently distinguishes the order to which he belongs, was most kind and attentive in pointing out such objects as he considered interesting to an intelligent tourist. We passed through Rathcormac, a dilapidated village, rendered memorable by the affray that took place between the police and the people, on account of tithes due to the Reverend Mr. Ryder, by the Widow Ryan, on which occasion the son of the widow was killed. There is an extensive and handsome fair-green in the village, close to which the Rev. Mr. Ryder happened to be standing as we passed. He appears to be a gentleman between sixty and seventy years of age, above the middle size, with strongly marked features, and apparently a person possessed of great decision of character.

We changed horses at a poor village called Watergrass Hill, which is said to be the highest table-land in Ireland. Descending the hill, we fell in with a handsome seat, formerly the property of Mr. Smith, but now in the occupation of Mr. Hackett. In this neighbourhood I saw the seat of Mr. Dargan, the great railway contractor, which he has recently purchased; and also Kildina, the seat of Edmund Burke Roche, Esq., M.P. for the county. The ride from Fermoy to where we fell in with the Glanmire Road is not as interesting as many of those which I had previously enjoyed; a large portion of this part of the county of Cork being destitute of the characteristics that attract the traveller's notice, plantations being rare, and the country tame and flat. The potato crop throughout the counties of Cork and Tipperary seemed unhurt; the people of these districts could scarcely credit the accounts that reached them in reference

to this subject; the corn crops along this line looked thin and backward. Within about five miles of Cork we fell in with the Glanmire Road, which presents many features that attract the admiration and attention of the tourist—such as fine mansions, and handsome villas, many of which are deeply embosomed in the midst of rich and umbrageous trees. They are so numerous, and strike upon the view with such frequency, that it would be too much of a task to attempt a separate and distinct description of them. Amongst the most prominent, however, I may mention Lord Riversdale's house and beautiful demesne, and the mansion lately occupied by Daniel Callaghan, Esq., M.P., deceased, to which there is a very striking and unique entrance gate. Approaching the city, agreeable objects constantly meet the gaze; for, in this locality, there seems to be a rivalry of art with nature; one, as it were, struggling with the other, to obtain a mastery. Indeed, I have heard it said that the sublimity and grandeur of this highly favoured district have been lessened by the various artistic efforts that have been made to ornament the beautiful sites which the hand of nature has so lavishly and so abundantly enriched. Consequently, mansions, villas, and cottages of every variety that the imagination can well conceive are here, studding a perfect fairy scene, and hiding themselves beneath the shade of the richest and most luxuriant foliage.

CHAPTER IX.

CORK CITY AND QUEENSTOWN.

At half-past five o'clock I entered Cork city, and, it being Friday, I dined heartily upon fresh hake. The early part of the next morning I spent in viewing the city, which is really a very fine place. Here there are several handsome public buildings, such as Protestant and Catholic churches, the banks, the

Imperial Hotel, and Daly's Club-house. The military barracks are of considerable extent, and form a very prominent and imposing feature, as they stand on the most elevated part of the city; part of them is, at present, converted into a poor-house, the Union-house having been burned down about a week since. The great tunnel for the railway, which passes from the Glanmire Road, under the barracks and under a great portion of the city to the station at Blackpool, is nearly completed. The workmen pass from one end to the other, and are now occupied in building the brick arches, which will form the sides and roof. The new or Patrick's Bridge is a very handsome structure, from which the principal street, called Patrick's Street, runs to the Grand Parade; being a distance of about half a mile. The North and South Mall, with the Grand Parade and Patrick-street, are extensive and beautiful, and are those which more immediately attract the attention of the stranger. On the Grand Parade stands a good equestrian statue of George the Second. The principal part of the city may be called an island, and, consequently, there are several bridges crossing the river that surrounds it. Fitzgibbon's great establishment on the Grand Parade is well worthy of a visit; a porter in blue and gold livery stands at the entrance door. It would be difficult to give an accurate description of this mammoth establishment; it will suffice to say that there are as many as one hundred and fifty young men employed as assistants in waiting on the visitors and exhibiting the goods. There are also some good markets in this city; one of them is on the principle of the great St. John's market in Liverpool. Butcher's meat, bacon, and salt meats of every kind, are to be obtained here, with fish, both fresh and salt, and vegetables, as well as fruit of all kinds in great abundance; thus affording ample accommodation to those who reside in that section of the city; the principal entrance to this market is from the Grand Parade. There are several distilleries and breweries in Cork; that of the Messrs. Beamish and Crawford being the most extensive. This great concern forms

a square, two sides of which are appropriated to the brewery ; there are forty-two windows on each of these sides. The other sides of the square are taken up with offices, the entrance gate, &c. The porters of this establishment wear blue liveries trimmed with gold lace, with the initial letters of the proprietors, "B. & C.," formed with gold lace upon the front of their blue cloth caps. Several clerks are employed in these offices, while the staff of ordinary working men, consisting of brewers, coopers, draymen, &c., is very numerous. Amongst the public buildings in this city, that which interested me most was Father Mathew's new church, upon which there was a large number of workmen then employed. The original design has, in some measure, been departed from ; it being considered too expensive for the means at the command of the committee. Already 15,000*l.* or 16,000*l.* have been expended on it ; the large circular window which is called the "O'Connell Window," is very beautiful, and is considered a great curiosity. Why it bears the name of Ireland's departed liberator arises from the circumstance of the local fund which was collected towards his monument, having been appropriated to advance the completion of the church ; the whole of it was expended on this fine window. It was expected that this church would be open for public worship in about two months from the time I saw it. One of the greatest curiosities in the vicinity of this city is the cemetery which has recently been perfected ; it is in the style of the Père la Chaise, in Paris, or that of Glasnevin, in Dublin : it is intersected with fine gravelled walks, while the intermediate spaces are ornamented with the rarest shrubs, plants, and flowers. Some very handsome monuments are to be seen here. Steamboats of very neat character are constantly plying between Cork and Queenstown ; they start every hour during the day, and are, generally speaking, filled with passengers, most of whom are composed of the fashionable and wealthy citizens and tourists who, at this season of the year, enjoy the luxury of bathing at Passage, Monkstown, and

Queenstown. The railway carriages, which are constantly running between Cork and Passage, were deriving considerable profits from persons of the same class. Many of those being engaged in business go by these conveyances, each evening, to their several bathing lodges; and return to the city after breakfast in the morning. The passage from Cork to Queenstown by the steamer is one continued scene of the richest beauty; it would be idle and ridiculous to attempt a description; the objects are so multifarious and so diversified, as to chain down the imagination, as it were, by a magic spell. However, there are some prominent features that cannot be passed over, and which demand the particular notice of the stranger; such as Spike Island, which forms an extensive dépôt for convicts; Hawlbowl, with its immense stores; Rock Island, the Powder Magazine; the Light-house; Carlisle Fort, &c.

While falling down the river I was greatly struck with a very beautiful and palace-like house, which, upon inquiry, I found to be the Ursuline Convent. This indeed is an institution every way worthy of the zeal, devotedness, and piety of the order to which its inmates belong.

The "Ajax," one of Her Majesty's vessels of war, was moored off Queenstown; she was formerly a 70-gun ship, but has been lately cut down, and at present carries but sixty guns. She has also been converted from a sailing vessel to a screw steam-ship. On landing at Queenstown, I at once procured a boat, and proceeded to take a view of this fine ship. On her bow she has a large and well-carved figure of the Homeric hero from whom she takes her name; it has a very striking effect. At her stern there is a commodious gallery that is entered by the cabin windows. Here the officers, availing themselves of the advantage which this appendage affords, occasionally retire to enjoy the fresh air, free from the bustle and confusion of the ship; and betimes indulge themselves in reading or smoking cigars. Several large-sized flower-pots and vases are placed along this gallery, and are filled with rare

plants and flowers, which, in such a situation, had an effect as pleasing as, to me, it was novel. Having satisfied myself with viewing her externally, I went on board, and, by one of the junior officers, who was a midshipman, I was made acquainted with such particulars, as, to a stranger, might be considered interesting. She has a few large guns on her upper deck which weigh 92 cwt. each, and throw an 84 lb. hollow shot; 16 lb. of powder are used in discharging one of these guns. The guns on her main-deck range throw a 68 lb. solid shot; and those on her lower-deck range throw a ball of 32 lb. Her captain's name is Michael Quinn; the first lieutenant, Mr. Massey; and the second lieutenant, Mr. Morton. There are four midshipmen belonging to her; the full complement of men amounts to six hundred. Of the Royal Marine Artillery there are on board of her eighty-three gunners, two corporals, three sergeants, and two officers, besides the captain. I saw the crew at their evening mess; each man had a bowl of coffee, with bread and a certain allowance of rum. There were eight sailors in each mess. I heard, while on board, that an experiment was once made in this ship: the crew being in their hammocks, the drums were ordered to beat to quarters; when the men turned out, dressed, tied up their hammocks, and were ready for action, in the short space of five minutes.

A young man from the county of Wexford who had been recommended by Lord Carew to the captain, had left for home on the day before, from illness; he had been for some time in hospital, but on showing symptoms of consumption, it was deemed advisable to send him home.

A gun-brig, called the "Wizard," lay at some distance from the "Ajax;" she was formerly a brig of ten guns, but at present carries only six, and is, at this time, used as a tender. She is just now anxious to obtain young men. Queenstown has been long famed for the salubrity of its air, and has been resorted to by persons having premonitory symptoms of consumption. Situated as the town is, on the side of a hill with a

southern aspect, and free from the influence of the cold north winds, I have no doubt but that invalids residing here, would find much shelter and protection; and, to that extent, would derive unquestionable benefit by making it their residence; but I will devoutly pray that none of those whom I love may ever be driven to the necessity of trying the experiment; for, in my opinion, the man or woman who cannot obtain health in any part of our comparatively genial climate, cannot expect to enjoy a very protracted existence. The church of Queenstown is a neat building, and has recently undergone alteration and repair; but, if I am rightly informed, it is far from being improved thereby, as the voice of the preacher cannot now be distinctly heard: in this respect it resembles the new Houses of Parliament. The Roman Catholic chapel, which is situated on a considerable elevation, has a very rich and handsome appearance, but its internal beauty is not correspondent with its exterior. The houses and shops in this favoured and fashionable town, are such as might be expected in a place so contiguous to Cork, which is, indeed, a city where elegance and refinement abound. Sailing down the Lee you have a view of Passage and Monks-town, which are generally resorted to for bathing at this season of the year; you have also a view of the Marquis of Thomond's seat, a very beautiful place, and of the village of Whitegate, where there is a coast-guard station. Returning in the evening, the Lighthouse of Blackrock displays its beacon light, under which the steamer closely passes; while a little farther on the lamps that extend for the space of a mile along the wall on the Glanmire side, present a splendid appearance. In addition to these, the lights from the windows of the several dwellings on the heights above, form one continuous line of unbroken illumination. I shall long dwell in pleased remembrance on Cork, Queenstown, and their envied environs. On my return from this pleasure trip, I went to the "Shades," an establishment so called, which is kept by Mr. Mahoney, an enterprising individual; it is conducted somewhat in the style of the celebrated

Jude's in Dublin, but being an infant concern, it is by no means equal to it. There is a band in attendance composed of a clarionet, corneopean, French horn, and flute, while a person presides at the piano-forte to accompany such of the visitors as may be desirous of singing.

On Friday evening I visited the theatre, for the purpose of seeing Mr. Macready in his celebrated character of "Richelieu," and was surprised and delighted with the array of beauty and fashion which filled the stalls and boxes. As an Irishman, I was gratified to behold such an assemblage as could not be surpassed in London or elsewhere.

On Sunday morning I arose at an early hour, and went to Brunswick Street chapel, where I heard mass, after which I partook of a hasty breakfast, and started for the railway station, where I took my seat for Mallow, on my way to Killarney. At nine o'clock the train started for Mallow, which we reached in an hour; and after a short delay, I took an outside seat on the coach, and had the advantage of sitting beside Mr. Dillon, the resident magistrate for Killarney. He is a most gentlemanly man, and afforded me valuable information in reference to Killarney, and the line leading thereto. In the vicinity of Mallow I noticed a fine seat, the residence of Mr. Newman, called Dromore. Passing onward I saw the celebrated Blarney Castle; could I have stopped a moment to lick the "Blarney Stone," I suppose my powers of persuasion would have been considerably increased. Here also I might have enjoyed the advantage of beholding the paramount benefits arising from a judicious and scientific system of agriculture; for, on this property, thorough drainage, green-cropping, and every species of experimental farming, have been adopted and successfully carried out by the spirited proprietor, St. John Jeffery, Esq. We changed horses at a village called Bantire, near Kanturk. At a short distance from this village, the river, which flows through Kanturk, falls into the Blackwater through a neat new bridge of three arches. There is a nice chapel in this village; the

congregation were assembling to hear mass, and were very comfortable in their appearance. From this place I obtained a view of the four Cready mountains. Soon after leaving this village, we fell in with Dromoch, the residence of Mr. Leader, whose father, some years since, represented Kilkenny. Farther on we had a view of an extensive turf-bog, the property of Sir George Colthurst; and soon after Drishane Castle, the beautiful and extensive seat of Mr. Wallace. We next fell in with the seat of M'Carthy O'Leary, Esq., which is very favourably situated. Millstreet, a village that lies midway between Mallow and Killarney, and where the second change of horses takes place, consists of a single street, containing about sixty houses, twenty of which were, at this moment, used as auxiliary poor-houses, and a very neat cottage belonging to the rector, the Rev. Mr. Mungan, was used for the same purpose. This cottage is nicely situated, and surrounded by handsome plantations; it stands about a furlong from the village, and, from its size and appearance, could not be capable of accommodating many paupers. The rev. owner is at present residing in London. Here also a temporary wooden shed is used as a fever hospital. I saw several of the patients, as I passed along, lying and sitting in a very uncomfortable manner. The state of this village furnishes a striking example of the extensive and increasing destitution of the country; nor is there the least hope of an immediate change, at least in this neighbourhood, as it adjoins the county of Kerry, where a total failure of the potato crop has taken place. The only redeeming feature, as regards this place, is the prosperity of the hotel, which arises from the large numbers of tourists that are every day passing through on their route to Killarney. The majority of these being English, are sure to stop at the hotel, where they have twenty minutes delay, to dine or lunch, excellent preparation being made for such purposes.

At a short distance from Millstreet we fell in with a handsome seat, called Mount Leader, which is called after the name of its owner, Mr. Leader. During my short stay at Millstreet,

I had a view of the range that forms the commencement of the grand chain of the Kerry Mountains. The first mountain of this distinguished group is called Clara, the second Capa, the third Gusteveau, and the fourth Paps. The name of this mountain is quite characteristic, as it strongly resembles the bosom of a fine woman. The engineers of the Government Survey, some of whom were belonging to the body of Sappers and Miners, ingeniously rendered the resemblance complete by building a protuberance on each pap, corresponding in appearance with that part of the breast from which issues the milk of humanity. The stream that runs through the small village of Inchabeg, divides the counties of Cork and Kerry. We changed horses for the last time, previous to our arrival at Killarney, at a place called Cornhill.

At four o'clock we arrived at Killarney, when I delivered a letter from a friend in Cork to Mr. M'Auliffe, a most intelligent man of business, who carries on the grocery and spirit trade. He accommodated me with lodgings, and so far entered into my wishes and intentions of endeavouring to see a great deal in a short time, that in less than half an hour I had my dinner, and was seated on the car which conveyed me along the celebrated Kenmare Road, a distance of ten and a half miles, from which road may be seen the greater part of the Upper and Middle Lakes.

CHAPTER X.

LAKE OF KILLARNEY.

RIDING along the Kenmare road I first fell in with the Turk Mountain, down which the water falls in a gradual descent, and, on that side which fronts the lake, forms a gentle cascade; but in rainy weather, or when the snows of winter melt upon the

mountain, it becomes a perfect torrent, the reverberating sound of which can be heard at a considerable distance. Having procured the key of the entrance from the woman who has charge of it, I proceeded, by a romantic and closely covered walk, to view this cascade. The scene was still and sombre, and broken only by the deep murmur of the mountain stream, in its gurgling descent. Passing the Turk Mountain I fell in with Sir Thomas Herbert's seat, called Turk Cottage; this is a very beautiful residence, from which can be seen some of the most interesting portions of this grand and celebrated place. Passing this fine seat there can be had an excellent view of the Middle or Turk Lake, in which stands the grey rock that goes by the name of "Donohoe's Wine-Cellars," and another called "Devil's Island." Advancing onward from Turk Mountain, you enter an extensive gorge formed by Glenna on the right, by Turk on the left; in the right centre by the Purple Mountain, which is a part of the lofty Toomies, while in the left centre you have the Drooping Mountain; and, in the background, a group of at least a dozen hills, which, presenting themselves, excite agreeable surprise, thus fully realising every idea of sublimity and grandeur.

While in this locality I enjoyed a great treat, which was occasioned by the shouts of a fashionable party, as their boat passed under the long range of Glenna and the Purple Mountain, their lusty efforts producing echoes at once rich and reverberating. Where the lake narrows, after passing the Long Range, a small and peculiar view, called "Coleman's Eye," is pointed out by the guide. Riding along the Kenmare Road you pass a curious tunnel in the rock; this tunnel owes its existence to the engineering skill of James Barry Farrell, Esq., the respected and scientific surveyor for the county Wexford, who laid out and carried into execution this splendid line of road, while acting as the engineer of the Board of Works. It takes its name from Lord Kenmare, who is the owner of the property through which it runs.

The tourist who travels by the Kenmare Road must be struck by a very handsome small building of a castellated appearance, with a neat tower at one end of it, situated amid rich and beautiful foliage. This building is used as a police barrack. At some distance from it may be seen another neat and fanciful building of a turreted character, which has been erected by Henry Arthur Herbert, Esq., and in which his care-taker at present resides. From the Police Barrack just mentioned, you have a view which comprehends parts of the three lakes, with the new house called the Lake Hotel in the distance. From a point about half a mile beyond this barrack you have a full view of the Upper Lake, the Gap of Dunloe, the Sugar-loaf Mountain, and the Boat House, from which the tourist takes the boat that conveys him along the Lakes. Lord Bandon is the owner of the property on which the Boat House stands. Currantuel, as the highest point of Macgillicuddy's Reeks is called, appeared to great advantage this evening, its prominent peaks being quite unclouded, while the tops of Mangerton and the Purple Mountain were blue and clear. Tourists have often to wait for several days, and even then cannot enjoy a similar advantage; in fact, should the weather be dark and cloudy, the beauties of this great place cannot be seen, and, consequently, cannot be fully appreciated or satisfactorily enjoyed. From this point appears "Oak Island," where the old Knight of Kerry had a cottage or hermitage; behind this island, and in front of Currantuel, lies the "Black Valley." A rustic thatched cottage, which formerly stood in this vicinity, has recently been removed by Lady Kenmare, and a slated one built upon the same site; the people of Killarney seem to regret their old favourite, to which they were wont to resort for pic-nic parties. Since the improvement made by her ladyship, they do not resort to it as heretofore.

On my return by the Kenmare Road, I had a fine view of the mountain called the "Eagle's Nest," which adjoins the Glenna Mountain. It was late when I viewed the ancient Abbey of Muckruss; in fact the bats and I were there together, as it was

eight o'clock, and the twilight was fast fading. The guide, however, endeavoured to reconcile me to this disadvantage by stating that connoisseurs preferred seeing it at night. He stated that he was called up at twelve o'clock one night, for the purpose of accompanying Sir Edward Macdonnel, Sir John M'Neil, and other gentlemen, directors of the Great Southern and Western Railway, who wandered through the Abbey as they best could, without the advantage of torches, lamps, or other light. The east window is considered very beautiful; the massive tower is in a state of comparative preservation; the immense yew tree is an object of great interest from its age and magnitude. I groped my way through the Cloisters, where many a holy friar or cowed monk mused in pious meditation, preparing himself for "another and a better world," and occasionally offering prayers and singing hymns of praise to the great Father of all. It is indeed a noble ruin, and I hope I shall one day have the pleasure of viewing it under more advantageous circumstances. Having spent my evening, from four until nine o'clock, in seeing all that could minister to my curiosity in so short a time, I returned to my quarters, and made arrangements for starting on the next morning at four o'clock.

At the hour appointed I was up and stirring, and found two smart and intelligent young men, which the careful catering of my excellent host provided for me. They had their boat moored at Ross Island, to which place we at once proceeded; it is about two miles from Killarney. The boatmen of Killarney serve in the double capacity of guides on the land and pilots on the Lakes.

Arriving at Ross Island, I walked over and around it, and viewed the several smaller islands, which the guides never fail to point out to those who visit the Lakes. The pleasure-grounds at Ross Island are rich and beautiful, possessing every variety, that art and nature, combining, can render subservient to the most capricious taste, in trees, shrubs, and beauteous flowers; while specimens of the different rocks are arranged in fanciful

and grotesque piles, and add considerably to the pleasing effect which these rare combinations produce. A very neat and elegant rustic cottage which adjoins the pleasure grounds arrests the attention and admiration of the visitor to Ross Island ; it is occupied by Mr. Doran, Lord Kenmare's forester.

Walking round the island, the guides take advantage of each available point to call the visitors' attention to what they affect to deem of great importance ; and hence they point out the "Hen and Chickens," "Rough Island," &c. Here, however, a view presents itself of a highly important character ; I mean the renowned Muckruss Shore, by which you are enabled to take in a great portion of the rich and highly ornamented grounds that surround the mansion of Henry Arthur Herbert, Esq., the proprietor of this delightful place. The ride through these beautiful grounds, which are open to the public, would amply repay the expense and trouble of a visit to this part of Ireland. Your attention also becomes directed by the guides to "Crane Island," the "Coa Islands," "Paddy Blake's Island," the "Burned Island," the "Swallow," the "Jackdaw," and "O'Donohoo's coach and four." From one part of Ross Island you obtain a distinct view of the Toomies and Glena mountains. You have also a fine view of Lady Kenmare's cottage, at the foot of Glena ; this her ladyship appropriates to her own immediate use ; not far from it there is another cottage which serves for the accommodation of strangers, and in which they dine or lunch, or otherwise refresh themselves. Here, again, you have an excellent view of the "Eagle's Nest ;" two eaglets were procured this season from a nest in this mountain ; a person being let down by ropes in the absence of the old birds. This is said to be a dangerous experiment, as the parent birds become furious under such a deprivation. Your attention is now directed by the guides to a heap of grey stones called "Carrigolander," and another called the "Cloheens."

I now entered the boat, and while rowing on the lake, "O'Donohoo's spy-glass" was pointed out ; and also his

"Pigeon-house." The wind, which blew strongly from the north-west, kept our boat dancing on the waves, while occasionally a dash of spray reminded us that sailing on the lake is sometimes no joke. Here were pointed out "O'Donohoo's library," and his "prison." Another grand view of the Toomies and Glengarriff may be had as you near Innisfallen Island.

I now landed on Innisfallen and walked over the island; the pasture is very rich, numbers of sheep were grazing on it; they are conveyed on and off by large lumber-boats; a sheep will become fat on this place in a month. There is also some fine timber on this island; some of the trees are large and spreading; a tomb was found here some time since, within a hollow, under a large ash tree. The abbey on this island is a venerable and small ruin; an old ash tree is growing in one end of it, and a smaller one on the eastern side. On the southern part of the island stands the ruin of a chapel of limited dimensions; I suppose this to have been the chapel of the abbey. I also observed a small rath, which, I conclude, must have been an ancient burial-ground. While on the island your attention is directed to the "Bed of Honour," a sort of rustic seat, which lies beneath the branches of a yew tree, which grows at the end of it, and on which visitors carve their names. From this point the great cascade on the Toomies Mountain is pointed out; this mountain can be seen extending to the eastward for a long distance.

Lake View, the residence of James O'Connell, Esq., brother to the Liberator, can be seen to great advantage from Innisfallen; as can Mahoney's Point, and Aghadoe-on-the-hill, where there is an old church-yard. Lord Kenmare's lovely seat called Bellview Hill, stands out in bold relief; to the left of this mansion his lordship's property extends to a considerable distance. His lordship is the owner of 60,000 plantation acres in this county. In the direction of Aghadoe can be seen Lady Headly's fine mansion, and conveniently to it, a handsome church. Her ladyship possesses a large property, and the tenants on her

estates are said to be very comfortably circumstanced. My attention was called by the guide to that part on the centre of Toomies Mountain, called the "Minister's Back." Although I own I was almost tired of the frequency of such ridiculous appellations, yet I inquired how that part of the mountain acquired such a designation; whereupon he said that a clergyman who lived in Killarney, was one day out in the mountains shooting deer, and having shot a buck, he had to climb up the mountain in order to secure his game, when he fell and broke his back; and hence, according to my guide, the name of the "Minister's Back" has ever since been bestowed on this part of the mountain. "O'Donohoo's honeycomb," and the "Mouse Islands," are now pointed out, and also the "Lamb and Heron Islands," which are opposite to the Victoria Hotel. From Innisfallen there is a fine view of Ross Castle, which is richly mantled with ivy. While on the lake, on leaving Innisfallen to return to Ross Island, we were overtaken by a sudden squall which, if our boat had been a sail boat, would have at once upset her. The squall was accompanied with a heavy shower; it came on so suddenly that the boatmen, who had their jackets off, were wet to the skin before they could get them on. The spray dashed right over the boat, and, on more than one occasion, we received "O'Donohoo's blessing" in the ablution caused by the surge.

Sail boats are not allowed on the Lakes, for squalls and violent gusts come on so unexpectedly, that no skill or foresight could prevent accidents from occurring. Arriving again at Ross Island, I proceeded to view the castle. The watch, or warder's tower, stands somewhat apart from the castle itself; there are three large guns planted in the barrier or outward wall. Ross Castle covers probably an area of nearly an acre of ground; it is a splendid ruin; there are one hundred and one steps leading to the summit; there is a grand room in the centre of the castle, with a large fire-place, and a massive chimney-piece of coarse marble. On the north lies the body of

the castle, where, in the feudal times, accommodation was afforded to the followers or vassals of the lord. Having started at four, I completed my examination of Ross and Innisfallen Islands by eight o'clock, when I returned to Killarney, through Lord Kenmare's demesne. At the entrance to this really splendid demesne, a new and fanciful porter's lodge has recently been built. A pair of beautiful stuffed eagles are to be seen here; they stand in windows, one on each side of the porch, and were natives of this region.

Notwithstanding the unqualified praise which I have felt it incumbent on me to bestow upon the various objects of natural and artificial beauty that I have seen in my brief sojourn in this greatly favoured vicinity, it was only when I entered this lovely and magnificent demesne that my wonder and admiration were raised to their highest pitch; and, on more than one occasion, I involuntarily exclaimed, "How extensive!—how beautiful!" From parts of it you have splendid views of the neighbouring mountains; as for instance from a neat and ornamental bridge that crosses the river Flesk, which winds in a serpentine manner through the demesne, you have one of the best possible views of the whole range, consisting of Glenna, the Purple Mountain, and the Reeks, on the right; while on the left you have an equally fine view of Turk and Mangerton. Soon after crossing this bridge, you enter an uncommonly rich and closely-shaded avenue, the overhanging trees forming natural arches, while the deep murmur of the river, as it gently flows beside the walk, gives additional charms to this enviable and delightful retreat. At the end of this avenue, you cross a plain bridge of rustic construction, which passes over a curve of the same river, when you fall in with another entrance to the demesne. The porter's lodge at this entrance is a very pretty thatched cottage, upon which, and upon the surrounding space, which forms a tasteful parterre, great pains have been bestowed; thereby rendering them objects as rich as they are neat and fanciful.

On Knockreigh Hill, at the rear of the mansion, stands Lady

Kenmare's favourite rustic cottage, from which can be seen more of the beauties of this great place, and of the Lakes and mountains, in one view, than from any other point in all Killarney, or its environs.

I cannot take leave of this beauteous place without expressing a wish that I may one day be enabled to revisit it, accompanied with dear friends, in whose society each beauty would appear to still greater advantage; at present my time has been so limited, that the presence of any person would have been an encumbrance, and must have caused inconvenience and delay. I hope the close of the last sentence will not subject me to the charge of an exclusive selfishness; my apology for thus expressing myself will be found in the fact that I arrived in Killarney on Sunday evening, and left it at ten o'clock next morning; still, owing to my exertions, I have been enabled to see a good deal even in so short a time. I spent from half-past four till nine o'clock on Sunday evening, which might constitute a reasonable day's work for a fashionable tourist, and from four till nine o'clock on Monday morning, which would be equal to another fashionable day's work, in viewing the bold and charming scenes which here present themselves. Still, it will be admitted that I laboured under great disadvantages.

Nearly opposite to the last-mentioned entrance to Lord Kenmare's demesne, stands the new and extensive Roman Catholic cathedral, which is now in a forward state, the roof being entirely covered in; the internal parts are still backward, and the tower raised no higher than the roof. This church has been built from a design of Mr. Pugin's, and, in some respects, resembles the cathedral at Enniscorthy, but is much finer, and I should say, larger. The estimated cost for finishing this fine edifice was 25,000*l*. There has been over half that sum expended on it up to the present time. The materials used in its construction are of excellent quality. Lord Kenmare has contributed liberally towards the funds for its erection, and a clergyman who had been collecting under the sanction of the

bishop, had just returned from America, bringing with him the sum of 2000*l*. The bishop, Doctor Egan, who lives in Killarney, is unremitting in his attention and supervision of the works. The first object that arrests the attention of a stranger, who arrives at Killarney from the Mallow direction, is Flesk Castle, the property and residence of Coltman Cronin, Esq. It appears, from its elevated situation, to be as large as Johnstown Castle, but is by no means as extensive; for a castle, its appearance is light, it is elaborately enriched with ornamental spires, and other decorations. The Coltmans, who have but recently taken the name of Cronin, have long been the proprietors of this desirable and beautiful residence.

The potato crop in the county of Kerry has been a complete failure, the growth has been stopped and the fruit stunted, while the quality is of the very worst description. In the whole town of Killarney a single good potato could not be procured. It would be difficult to use those which I saw, with the richest meats, and yet I was assured that they were the very best that could be found. How must it then be with the poor? I saw some wretchedly poor-looking creatures along the line of road leading from Millstreet to Killarney. I have often found feelings of indignation rising within me, as I saw in the "Illustrated London News," and other pictorial publications, what I then considered caricatures on our poor fellow-country people; these samples were in general taken from the county of Kerry, but from what I have myself witnessed, I must now confess that the pictures were not overdrawn, nor too highly coloured. I saw men, women, and children, both boys and girls, whose appearance presented pictures of wretchedness and squalor which could not be surpassed, running after the coach, and soliciting charity from the passengers. It struck me at the time that this wretchedness in attire was purposely kept up, in order to aid them in their appeals to the kindly feelings of the opulent passers-by; but a little reflection convinced me that such was not the case, for poverty and distress were as legibly written on

their pale cheeks and wasted forms, as they were manifested in their tattered habiliments. I felt the blush of shame mantling my cheek as, one after another, these poor creatures presented themselves to the view of my fellow-travellers, many of them from the sister country ; and I am happy to say that the English tourists were not sparing of their largesses to them. Yes, as an Irishman, I confess I did feel mortified and humbled at witnessing such evidence of degradation ; but it is not I, nor such as I, who ought to blush for this state of things, but those whose duty it is to see that the people of our common country, and the subjects who live under the boasted sway of a British sovereign, should, at least, be as well protected as those who have never known other than the usages of savage and uncivilised life.

The Lord Lieutenant visited the Lakes the week before ; a stag-hunt was got up during his sojourn. Crowds of visitors were every day arriving, the hotels were quite full, some of the inmates were glad to get a place to sleep, even on the carpets. I heard that one hotel-keeper was then clearing so large a sum as 100*l.* a week, and yet the charges were moderate. Almost all the people of business in Killarney had their houses prepared to accommodate lodgers ; the person to whom I had reference was thus prepared, and the terms were, indeed, reasonable.

On the day I left Killarney I heard from good authority, that the Great Western Railway had issued 3000 tickets to tourists who purposed visiting the Lakes, few, or none of which, up to that time, had come to hand. The harvest was very late in this part of Kerry ; I did not see a single field reaped up to the day I made this note, which was the 19th of August.

On taking my place on the coach from Killarney to Mallow, I chanced to be seated beside a very fine young man, who was occupied for the last month in making a tour through this part of Ireland, and who occasionally amused himself by fishing in the several rivers throughout the south and west. In the pursuit of his favourite amusement he spent several days in the neighbourhood of the Lakes. He was evidently a person of

education, possessing easy and elegant manners, and, as I afterwards understood, an officer in one of her Majesty's regiments of dragoons, and was very probably a branch of the English nobility. The conversation naturally turned on the beauties of the place to which we were then turning our backs, when I was rather surprised to hear him speak of Killarney and its scenery in slighting and contemptuous terms; he said the Lakes were nothing, and that persons having a taste for such scenes ought to go to North America. I own I felt a good deal annoyed as well as surprised, to hear him use such terms as evinced a perverted taste, or, what was still worse, an unreasonable prejudice; and I did not hesitate to tell him, that I thought his observations had done but little credit to his judgment or to his liberality. I also said, that although a command of fortune might enable him to make a tour of the Americas, where he might sail on the Lakes Superior, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, and the Champlain; still I questioned if he could see so much of all that is beautiful on any of these immense lakes, as he could behold at Killarney. However, even if it were as he stated, how could the numerous visitors who were every day flocking to Killarney indulge their wishes, supposing their notions to be in consonance with his. The judges of the land in their short vacations, could not spare sufficient time to make so extended a tour; neither could the barristers who practise in their courts; while clergymen and men of business could not devote so much of their valuable time as would be necessarily consumed in going to such a distance from their homes. How could the husband of a tender and delicate wife, or the father of a large family, the greater number of them perhaps females, indulge these objects of his care and solicitude in making such distant excursions? the idea, indeed, is quite preposterous.

I further said that I felt convinced that no individual, however influential he might be, or, indeed, any number of individuals, could now succeed in turning the tide of public attention from these lovely and truly interesting scenes. The

facility afforded by steamboats and railroads would now enable the people of England to visit the Lakes of Killarney, and at the same time enable the people of this country to visit Windsor, Richmond, the Thames, the Lakes of Cumberland, and other scenes of interest and beauty in England, as well as Loch Lomond, Loch Katrine, the Solway, and the Tweed in Scotland. I concluded by stating, that he might as well recommend those who evince a partiality for marine views, to go into the centre of the Atlantic or the Pacific to indulge their taste; or to tell those who—like the celebrated Alexander Pope, the great admirer of Windsor Forest—are partial to rural scenery, to hasten to the backwoods of America, and there indulge their predilections in the midst of interminable forests, as to tell the admirers of the Lakes of Killarney, to relinquish their indulgence of the sublime and beautiful, and to fly to the vast Lakes of North America, in the vain hope of seeing aught that can out rival them in natural richness and pleasing variety. The great advantage which Killarney holds out to those who wish to pay it a visit is, that whether they have leisure to indulge in a long sojourn, or may be limited in point of time, in either case they can suffer no disappointment. As, for instance, in my own case. My visit was confined to a few hours, still I have been enabled, owing to the concentration of its fine natural beauties, to enjoy a real treat; and were I at liberty to spend as many days as I have spent hours, I would have sufficient occupation, by viewing these several objects in detail. I must do him the justice to say that he bore my temperate rebuke with becoming complacency, and did not attempt, by renewed arguments, to confute my reasoning or my view of the subject. The conversation soon took a different turn, and I found him to be as intelligent, as he was, unquestionably, polite and gentlemanly. On arriving at Mallow he bade me farewell, he remaining to fish in the Blackwater, while I proceeded by the railway to Cork.

CHAPTER XI.



YOUGHAL.

ON my arrival in Cork, and having dined, I went to the theatre, to see Mr. Macready in the character of "Virginius," which he acted for his farewell benefit. The house was full in every part, and he received repeated and enthusiastic applause. This has long been considered as one of his best parts, and he owes much of his justly acquired fame to the masterly and consummate skill which he evinces in his delineation of the pure and virtuous Roman; but, according to my notion, he allowed too much of his artistic acquirements to display themselves, and occasionally became less natural, and, as a matter of course, less effective. His "Richelieu" is more free from these fastidious revelations of art, and hence the unqualified approbation which has been bestowed on it by those who have any pretensions to refined and true dramatic taste. At the end of the play he was loudly called for, and received hearty demonstrations of admiration and respect from a truly enlightened audience. On this occasion I had another opportunity of witnessing an assemblage of fine stalwart men, and of lovely and fashionable women. One evening, during my stay in Cork, I was introduced by a friend to a very nice evening lounge, or divan, which is kept by Mr. Hyndes, who lives about the centre of Patrick-street. We entered by a handsome shop, and were ushered into a parlour, or what may be more properly called an elegant saloon, which was furnished in the richest and neatest manner. The drinkables were of the finest quality; the vessels out of which we took our porter were silver-gilt, and everything else was of corresponding neatness. I have not seen, even in London, anything of the kind to surpass this establishment. On inquiry, I ascertained

that the proprietor is a person not entirely dependent on business, and therefore can afford to carry out his own notions of taste and refinement. None but persons of respectability frequent this place.

On Saturday, the 24th, I proceeded from Cork to Youghal. The morning was uncommonly fine, and the ride, which was by the day-coach, one of the pleasantest that could well be imagined. The country along this line is about some of the richest and most highly cultivated which I have seen in the course of my tour. The driver, Mr. Shanahan, who keeps a hotel in Cork, is an agreeable and well-mannered man. Soon after leaving Cork, I noticed Barry's Court, an ancient castle and rich demesne. Carricktuel is a small village, with no remarkable feature which might cause it to live in the traveller's remembrance. Soon after passing this village, I noticed Mount Edmund, the residence of Mr. Courtney, a fine old place. We now arrived at Middleton, which is a small but handsome town, consisting of one long and wide street; there is a neat market-house in the centre of the town, with shambles underneath it. There are two distilleries here; one of them belongs to Mr. Wyse, of Cork, and the other to Father Mathew's brother-in-law; but the latter is not working at present. The magnificent seat of the Earl of Shannon, which immediately adjoins Castlemartyr, is a very extensive and beautiful place. The noble owner of this demesne is exceedingly popular; he is an excellent landlord, who has constantly resided on his property, and has spent his fortune in his own neighbourhood. He kept hounds, and was ever forward in promoting everything calculated to advance the interests of his country. Actuated, I suppose, by prudential motives, he has recently curtailed his large establishment, and has adopted a rigid system of economy. Instead of thirty horses, he now keeps but a single one, and his household in general has been reduced in the like proportion. The people who live in his vicinity are deploring the change which has taken place in this respect; they are alarmed lest his affairs are seriously disordered,

and it is really gratifying to witness the kindly feelings that are evinced by them, and the disinterested manifestations of commiseration they display. In common with his neighbours, I sincerely hope that the cause of this change is but of a temporary character, and that he will soon resume the state and style which became him so well, and which were so beneficial to others. Castlemartyr has suffered severely by the alteration; while things went right with him, it was a flourishing and comfortable little town, but the reduction of his establishment, and the general depression of the times, have cast a heavy gloom over this small place.

Approaching the town of Youghal, you obtain a view of the sea, and also of Capel Island, on the centre of which stands a tower that was originally intended for a lighthouse; but which, after having been partly built, was condemned and abandoned. Vessels can pass between this island and the point or bluff called Knockadoon, but in doing so it requires much caution, as there are sunken rocks in the centre of the passage. The entrance to the harbour is apparently free and open, but the water is bad, except close to the headland, on the eastern side. Beside the Lighthouse, which immediately adjoins the town, the spot is pointed out where Sir Walter Raleigh planted the first potato in Ireland; the house in which he resided is also shown: it is situated in the vicinity of the town, and is called Myrtle Grove.

Youghal is a very old and apparently a sinking town, although a seaport; the streets are narrow, and remind one of Wexford, which, in this respect, it greatly resembles. In the centre of the town there is a very neat building, which stands upon an arch—it is called the Clock-gate, and divides the north and south main streets. A building of a similar character may be seen at the West-gate, in Clonmel, and also in the city of Cashel. There is an extensive market-place on the quay. The old church is an interesting ruin, with a magnificent window in the eastern gable, originally of six lights, and richly embellished with flowing

tracery; it is pointed out as a great curiosity, and is well worthy of the attention of those who visit this ancient town. Adjoining the church there is the ruin of a fine old castle. In the new church can be seen a very grand monument, erected to the Earl of Cork, with figures of his first and second wife, and also one of his mother. The College-house, which constitutes the residence of the Duke of Devonshire, when he visits Youghal, stands near to the entrance of the church, and is at present in the keeping of a care-taker. The Roman Catholic chapel, which is called St. Mary's, is a neat and plain structure, 100 feet in length, and 50 feet in breadth; the steeple is high and elaborately finished. In this chapel there is a fine painting of the Crucifixion, which was brought from Lisbon. A strange and singular story is told regarding an eccentric character, who was an inhabitant of this town, and who died about twenty years ago. He was a medical doctor by profession, whose name was Watkins. He was long remarked for using a particular asseveration, confirmatory of any assertion which he might make from time to time, no matter whether the question at issue was of importance, or the contrary. It was to this effect: "I wish that not a blade of grass may grow upon my grave, if what I say is not true." Well, he died, and was buried in the church-yard of the town; his grave was shown to me, and, strange as it may appear, not a single blade of grass was springing from it, while those beside and around it were fresh and verdant. This curious phenomenon is brought under the notice of every stranger who visits the town. Mr. Shanahan, who drives the coach from Cork to Youghal, mentioned it as one of the curiosities of the place; and a respectable inhabitant, who is a ship-broker, accompanied me to the church-yard, in order to point it out. I am not naturally over-credulous, and consequently cannot allow my conviction to go the length of recognising in this story an absolute truth, without having a full opportunity of testing its accuracy; still this strange and publicly-attested circumstance made a strong impression on my

mind ; and as I reflected on its singularity, the words which Shakspeare puts into the mouth of " Hamlet " forcibly occurred to me : " There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

While stopping at Youghal, it was a source of regret to me, that I could not avail myself of the superlative advantage of proceeding from Youghal to Lismore and Cappoquin, by the Blackwater River. My disappointment in this respect arose from the circumstance of the small steamer, which was placed on this river by Sir Richard Keane, having been at that time withdrawn.

However, availing myself of the advantage which a car afforded, I was enabled to form an adequate notion of the loss which I sustained. This is considered the greatest treat that can be enjoyed in the south of Ireland ; the natural scenery, sloping downwards from the summits of the highest mountains, and extending even to the water's edge, forms pictures at once bold and sublime, and such as can rarely be met with in any other locality.

The works of man do not here, as on the banks of the Lee, interfere with those of nature ; and hence the enthusiast gloats in rapture on her unsophisticated beauties. Returning from Youghal to Cork, I noticed a new and large mansion, surrounded by rich and extensive plantations, situated near the village of Killa ; this seat is called Dromdiah, and is the property of Mr. Davis, who, with the assistance of two sons, active young men, farms 2000 acres of land. His fine residence bespeaks the success with which his herculean labours are crowned. Killa is a small but neat village, the handsome seat of Sir Arthur Brooke immediately adjoins it ; he is the owner of considerable property here, including the village itself.

I arrived in Cork at seven o'clock, and had just time to dine previously to starting for the railway station, where I took my place for Limerick. The train started at half-past eight, and arrived at the junction at eleven o'clock ; where we had to

remain for two hours waiting for the arrival of the Dublin train. This delay was very irksome and wearying, the more so as it occurred at the hour of midnight; however, everything that could be expected was done by the managers to mitigate the inconvenience. A good fire is kept for the accommodation of those who are thus obliged to wait, and supper, tea, and coffee, with wines, brandy, whiskey, porter, and ale, are to be obtained at the ordinary hotel prices; the persons in attendance are polite and obliging. On the arrival of the train we proceeded to Limerick, which we reached at the very inconvenient hour of half-past two o'clock.

CHAPTER XII.

LIMERICK CITY.

ON Sunday morning the day set in wild, and the rain fell heavily; I attended at St. Michael's, one of the parish chapels, where I heard mass. The service was performed by a very dignified-looking clergyman, Father Darrock, who was assisted at the benediction by Father Coughlan. The congregation was large and respectable. There are three other parish chapels in Limerick; St. Mary's, which is in the suburbs, St. John's, and St. Munchin's. There are also the chapels of the several orders; the Dominicans, the Franciscans, and the Augustinians; besides the chapels of the several nunneries. After dinner I paid a visit to the Limerick Cathedral, which is dedicated to St. Mary. This is a truly grand and very extensive edifice, of a strong and massive character. The magnificent square tower, which stands on the western extremity of the building, is 120 feet in height. The cathedral is composed of a nave and choir, separated from the aisles by pointed arches; the choir is 91 feet by 30, with a fine window in the east end. This portion of the

cathedral, at present appropriated to divine worship, is uncommonly beautiful. In front of the communion-table stands a very rich baptismal font, of fine black marble, with a cover to correspond; near to this is the bishop's throne. A very handsome and unique reading desk is formed by a large golden eagle, supporting on its back the book-rest, on which the Bible is placed. The pulpit is a grand and antique curiosity; the organ splendid; while the arms of the kings of Munster, emblazoned and ornamented with fine carving, present a rare picture, as rich as it is beautiful. The fronts of the galleries are ornamented with oak panelling, splendidly carved; while on the pews appear figures and devices equally rich, and also executed in the finest carving. Several ancient and modern monuments are to be seen here. Among the ancient specimens is that of the great Earl of Thomond; it is supported by pillars of the Ionic, the Corinthian, and Composite orders; and composed of three different coloured marbles. There is also a fine monument to the Galway family. Modern monuments meet the eye at every turn, amongst others a very beautiful one to Lord Henry Edmund Glentworth, son of the Earl of Limerick; and also one to the late bishop, Doctor Jebb, which is a full-size figure, in a sitting posture, finely executed in white marble. Several of the respectable and useful citizens have neat and handsome monuments erected to their memories; most of these have been prepared to gratify kindly private feelings; but, as they cannot be of interest beyond their own immediate locality, I did not think it necessary to encumber my notes with them. However, there was one that I could not overlook, as he to whom it was raised may be looked upon in the light of a public benefactor; besides, I know nothing which more forcibly appeals to the feeling and patriotic heart, or which is more calculated to excite our common sympathy, than when we find the chivalrous and the young falling in defence of their native land. That to which I allude is a very handsome and peculiar monument erected to the memory of Andrew

Watson Mahony, a young naval officer ; it bears the following inscription :—

“ Guileless, gentle, generous, brave,
He loved the ocean’s swell,
And in the billow and the wave,
’Midst wreck and death, he fell.”

Several rude remains of ancient figures carved in stone are to be seen in the aisles. The coming darkness obliged me, reluctantly, to abandon my further examination of this grand and highly interesting place. The Wellesley Bridge, built by Act of Parliament, and finished in the year 1831, and so called in compliment to the Marquis of Wellesley, who was then the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, is a magnificent structure ; it cost 142,000*l.*, a toll of one half-penny each is taken for foot-passengers. Baal’s Bridge was rebuilt by the corporation in the year 1842, and is a very handsome building.

The Thomond-Gate Bridge, a very strong and massive specimen of the builder’s art, was erected by the corporation in the year 1843.

The Mathew Bridge, a remarkably strong and fine structure, was built by the corporation in the year 1844. These several useful and ornamental structures reflect much credit on the members of the new and reformed corporation. Near the Clare end of the Thomond-Gate Bridge may be seen the celebrated “Treaty Stone,” on which the treaty between the English under General Ginckel, and the commanders of the Irish army, was signed. I sat upon this stone while I made my note : I remembered with pride and gratitude the devotion of the women and the bravery of the men of that period ; while indignant thoughts passed across my mind as I reflected on the want of good faith which was manifested in the atrocious violation of the articles of agreement.

The Shannon, as it flows under Thomond-Gate Bridge, divides the counties of Limerick and Clare. The Castle of Limerick,

or, as it is called "King John's Castle," is a very strong place ; it is composed of a large court, surrounded by an uncommonly thick and well-built wall, and flanked on the north by four heavy round towers, apparently so strong as to be capable of resisting every assault. On the south there is a single tower of the same character, and equally strong, with guns mounted on its summit. Within the court-yard a military barrack has been built, capable of containing about four hundred men.

Besides those already mentioned, there are several public buildings in this city ; such as the county and city court-houses ; the county and city jails ; a new and very handsome church at Perry Square ; and the Rice Testimonial at the same place. This is a very handsome column surmounted by a full-length figure, intended to represent the present Lord Monteagle ; who, as Thomas Spring Rice, was for many years M.P. for the city. In the same neighbourhood there is a plain building, called the Blind Asylum Church. Here also may be seen a large building called the Philosophical Rooms, which was intended for a museum : this institution is not finished, nor is it likely to be for some time, it being much too extensive for the amount of funds available for its completion. The Savings' Bank, which is also in this vicinity, is a very handsome new building, and is nearly ready for occupation. A neat portico stands in front of it, supported by four fluted columns. Adjoining the building, a nice brick house, intended for the actuary or some of the officers, was in a forward state. Leamy's Free School, a public institution, is a fine, large, house ; another Free School has been built and endowed by Mrs. Villiers. The Earl of Limerick's house may be called a public building, although it is at present in a very neglected state, and presents a shabby appearance. The Bishop's Palace immediately adjoins Lord Limerick's house, and is a plain brick edifice. The Commercial Buildings are situated in Patrick-street : there is a news-room in connexion with these buildings. I had the honour of being

introduced to the Chamber of Commerce, by Mr. Charles O'Hara, a merchant of the city.

In this institution I met Mr. Franklin, the late manager of the Provincial Bank in Wexford, who seemed glad to see me, and conversed with me for some time regarding the town of Wexford; he charged me with his regards to the family at Ely House.

The lunatic asylum, county jail, county infirmary, and artillery barracks are situated in the suburbs of the city; and near the quarter called "Garryowen." In the centre of the county jail there is a very beautiful polygonal tower, 60 feet in height, which constitutes the residence of the governor, and other offices. Over the entrance to the artillery barrack there is a neat and characteristic weathercock, the vane of which is a miniature cannon. Cruise's Hotel is a magnificent establishment, and second to nothing of the kind in the south of Ireland, not even excepting the "Imperial" at Cork. There are 36 windows in the front of the house, and 300 bedrooms within it. Mr. Cruise is a most attentive man of business, and occasionally acts as his own waiter; it is said he has realised a considerable fortune. In addition to the public buildings already mentioned, there are the Limerick Club-house, the Theatre, in which Mr. Pablo Fanque was exhibiting his interesting equestrian entertainments; the Mechanics' Institute, and some neat Presbyterian and Wesleyan chapels. On the north side, or, as it is designated, the English town, there is a fine building called the Barrington Asylum, which was erected by funds chiefly supplied by Sir Matthew Barrington: it is used as an infirmary for the city. On the day before I left, an inquest was held at this institution on the body of a woman named Clancy, whose husband was in custody on the charge of having caused her death by violence. The evidence examined in this distressing case went to prove, that about a week before she received the alleged ill-treatment, she had been confined and gave birth to a child. It appeared in evidence that she had been drinking on the day she received

the beating from her husband, and was more or less intoxicated. He became irritated by her misconduct, and, as it was proved, beat her with an ordinary walking cane or small stick ; however, the unfortunate woman lost her life, and the event created a great sensation in the city. After a lengthened investigation the husband was discharged, there not being evidence sufficient to satisfy the jury that her death was caused by the injuries she received at his hands. Sir Mathew Barrington also caused what may be called a charitable institution to be built for the benefit of the poor housekeepers of the city. It consists of a handsome building of circular form, with a dome-like roof, in which was established an office where pledges would be received, and a very low rate of interest charged. This was intended to obviate the evil of the ordinary pawnbroking system ; but the unfortunate people, insensible to their own interests, and actuated by a false pride, prefer going to the old establishments, where they are made to pay dearly for the absurd preference they give.

The potato market cannot fail to attract the notice of the stranger. It is a large area, of about half an acre, surrounded by a handsome iron railing embedded in cut stone, with commodious sheds inside. This market, with many of the before-mentioned improvements, may be attributed to the public spirit and liberality of the new corporation. This body has recovered some property which was held under questionable titles, the tenants having quietly surrendered rather than incur a heavy expense by going to law. However, the corporation sustained some loss in endeavouring to enforce the collection of tolls. In this instance its efforts were frustrated, and a defeat, with considerable expense, was the consequence. Large floating docks are at present being built, the Quay Commissioners having borrowed 50,000*l.* from the Board of Works for their erection. The finest quarries are within a few yards of where the works are going on ; the mortar is made by steam, and everything connected with this great undertaking is progressing with the greatest rapidity. Building materials can be found here with

very little trouble, in fact the city is built upon a rock, which is easily quarried, and yields a substantial stone of a dark grey colour. The bridges and the quays are built of large blocks of this description.

From the quay there is a fine view of Tervoe, the seat of Mr. Monsel, M.P., which lies about three miles down the Shannon. He is married to a daughter of the Earl of Dunraven; he is truly liberal in every respect, and consequently very popular. Indeed he appears to be, in Limerick, what Charles Arthur Walker is in Wexford. From Limerick you have a view of the Clare Mountains, one range of which is called "Trooke." The immense steam-mills of Russell and Company are situated on the quay, near to where the docks are being built. They are the most extensive millers in Great Britain or Ireland; they work one hundred pairs of stones. The father and four sons compose the company; one of the partners resides constantly in London; there is a fifth son who is serving as an officer in the Indian army. The Union-houses in the neighbourhood of Limerick at present owe them 60,000*l.*, and a short time since owed them as much as 85,000*l.*

Limerick, although not so large as Cork, is much more regular and beautiful, especially that part of it that lies south of the Shannon. George's-street, and Patrick-street form one continuous line of nearly an English mile in length; with streets equally good branching off at right angles. The houses are large, and uniform in their character, and give it a truly city-like appearance. The English town, which lies north of the Shannon, has more of the character of an Irish town, the houses being plain and the streets irregular. During my sojourn in Limerick I chanced to meet, at the house of a friend, a respectable female who was well acquainted with the family of the amiable and very celebrated Miss Catherine Hayes. I availed myself of this favourable opportunity to make myself conversant with the early history of this highly-gifted and distinguished songstress, and requested the lady in question to favour me with such particulars

as her long acquaintance with the friends and family of the fair cantatrice enabled her to furnish. She very kindly acceded to my request, and the substance of her information will be found in the following detail :—

The father of Miss Hayes was the master of the band of the Limerick militia. He, being gifted with a good voice, as well as being by his profession a good musician, was on several occasions induced to appear on the stage as an amateur. Mrs. Hayes, the mother of the fair vocalist, also a good singer, was on one occasion induced by her husband reluctantly to make her appearance before the public, on which occasion, while singing the song of "Has she not failed in her truth," she became unnerved, and actually fainted.

Soon after this time Mr. Hayes left Limerick, perhaps for the purpose of adopting the profession to which he seemed partial ; but be that as it may, he returned no more to his home or family. Mrs. Hayes was thus left with three children, one of them a boy, who died young, and two daughters, Miss Catherine and her elder sister Henrietta, who continues to live with her mother and sister.

Under such disadvantages, Mrs. Hayes, by her industry, continued to give her children a good education ; assisted, no doubt, by her mother, Mrs. Carroll, who was housekeeper to the Earl of Limerick, in which situation she continued for thirty years. The young Catherine at a very early age showed evidence of being gifted with a good voice, and has on many occasions surprised and delighted ladies who patronised her mamma's establishment, by singing for them while yet an infant of eight years old. Mrs. Hayes kept a dressmaker's establishment, and had as customers some of the first families in Limerick. Miss Catherine was in due time taught music and singing by her paternal uncle, Mr. Bury Hayes, who was a professional teacher of these accomplishments. This young lady being a great favourite with her grandmamma, Mrs. Carroll, was much in the habit of visiting and stopping with her at the house of the Earl

of Limerick, which is next door to the Bishop's Palace. The consequence was that Dr. Knox, then Bishop of Limerick, had frequent opportunities while walking in his garden of hearing her sing. He was much struck with her fine voice, and became greatly interested for her. He purchased for her a grand piano-forte, and ultimately had her apprenticed to Signor Sapio. With what she has since become, all the world is now fully acquainted. The above-mentioned facts, which cannot be doubted, speak largely in favour of both mother and daughter.

Within a year from the time when she was placed under the care of Signor Sapio, she accompanied him to Limerick, where she appeared in concerts, and astonished many of her early friends by the progress she had made in her divine art. On a subsequent occasion she visited Limerick, when, as might have been expected, her powers were more fully developed, and left no doubt of her ultimate and complete success. Soon after this she proceeded to the continent, where she continued until she won for herself an European fame. The most distressing circumstance in connection with the history of this highly gifted creature, arises from the conduct of her father, who, as I have already mentioned, deserted his family, and connected himself, some say in marriage, with another woman. The husband of the lady from whom I obtained these particulars, being in London in the year 1835, met Mr. Hayes at a house of entertainment in the Strand, when he introduced a youth to him as his son, of course by his second marriage. He spoke of Mrs. Hayes and of the children in terms of affection, and made particular inquiry concerning them. Whether he still lives or the contrary, is not known in Limerick. If he is still in existence he is abundantly punished for his perfidy and folly, by being for ever cut off from any connection with such a wife and such children. Notwithstanding his cruel treatment of her, Mrs. Hayes always spoke of him in the kindest terms; this may seem strange, but it is not more strange than true. There was not a more exemplary or respectable woman in Limerick than

Mrs. Hayes. When Miss Catherine, her mother, and sister, recently visited Limerick, their drawing-room, at Cruise's Hotel, was crowded by the most fashionable visitors, ladies and gentlemen, and might be said to bear the resemblance of a levee.

On the morning of the day on which I left Limerick, a truly melancholy and fatal accident occurred. Just as the steamer which starts every morning for Kilrush and Kilkee, was in the act of leaving the quay, a car was seen to approach very rapidly to the station, from which the vessel had just begun to move. Planks are not used at these quays, the water being sufficiently deep to admit of the steamer lying so close as to enable the passengers to step from off the quay on board the vessel. A fine young man jumped off the car, and took a female who was on the opposite side in his arms, and ran with her to the packet, and had just succeeded in placing her feet on the side of the boat. In order to get her safely on board he had to push her forward, and by this means accomplished the object he had in view. But alas! in achieving so much for her, he lost himself; for at this moment the packet moved off, and it became impossible for him to reach her; while the efforts he had previously made to get the lady on board occasioned him to stretch so far forward that it was equally impossible for him to recover his upright position on the quay. The consequence was that he fell between the quay and the steamer, and, as it was supposed, was struck by a revolution of the paddle, for he never rose. What must have been the feelings of the poor female in witnessing the sudden and melancholy death of her gallant preserver? She was in delicate health, and was about to proceed to Kilkee for the benefit of sea-bathing, when this awfully heartrending event took place, which deprived her of him who was her darling and her pride; for alas! he was her son.

CHAPTER XIII.

KILKENNY CITY.

At one o'clock on Wednesday, the 28th, I proceeded homewards, travelling by the Limerick railway. The bridge at the Limerick railway station, which was built by an American, is considered a splendid structure—a new principle is said to have been adopted in its construction. In the centre of the station-house there are several carriage-ways, and on each side a platform of eighteen feet wide. The roof that covers this great width is formed by a single arch.

The potato crop is much worse in the county of Limerick than in the adjoining counties of Cork and Tipperary. From Limerick to Thurles we passed through a rich country; the corn crops bore a cheering aspect, and in some instances were falling beneath the hand of the reaper. I noticed an ancient ruin at a place called Palace, and a smaller one at Oulah, a poor village. Here we had a view of the Gaultee Mountains, which from this place show to great advantage. When at the Dundrum station, we were in the vicinity of a part of the celebrated "Golden Vein." Lord Hawarden is the owner of the property on which this station stands. Proceeding towards Thurles, we obtained a fine view of the Rock of Cashel, and also of the magnificent ruin of Holycross; it was a matter of regret to me that I had not leisure to indulge the inclination I felt to view the latter justly celebrated ruin.

On my arrival in Thurles I was strongly urged by a kind friend to remain for the solemnities of the next day; but the necessity for my return home rendered it impossible that I could avail myself of his flattering invitation; indeed, but for

the urgency of the business, which was of a public nature, it would have required no persuasion to induce me to remain where so many were attracted by the august synodical assemblage at this time held there, and which will long be rendered memorable by the congregation of the dignitaries of the Catholic Church. I saw in Thurles on this occasion the Very Reverend Doctor Burke, with whom I had the honour of an interview in Clonmel, on which occasion he expressed much regret for the lamented demise of the Very Reverend Doctor Sinnot. The crowds here were not so great as might have been expected, but I suppose the evening and morning trains must have considerably increased their numbers, in anticipation of which the cooks were very actively engaged at Boyton's Hotel.

After an hour's delay in Thurles, I started by the public car for Kilkenny, a distance of thirty-six miles. We passed through Littleton, a poor village, which is better than four miles from Thurles. There is a post-office in this village. The sub-sheriff of the county, Mr. Samuel Gowan, resides here; Mr. Russell is the owner of the property on which the town stands. Advancing onwards from this place, I noticed three old castles, of the ordinary class, standing about a mile distant from each other. A little farther on we fell in with a part of the Bog of Allen, which extends into the counties of Tipperary and Kilkenny. Between Littleton and Urlingford we travelled along a road which runs for two miles over the tail of this bog. Within a short distance of Urlingford, a small river, which is crossed by a rude and insignificant bridge, divides the counties of Tipperary and Kilkenny. The village of Urlingford consists of one long street, the houses in which show unmistakeable evidence of the destitution of the times. I noticed Fouke's Castle, the seat of Mr. Healy, which is in excellent preservation: it is within a short distance of the village of Johnstown. Johnstown is a handsome and comfortable-looking place; this may be accounted for by the circumstance of a fine spa being found here, which is much used by fashionable parties. We next arrived at Freshford,

which may be called a large village. There are some comfortable houses and nice shops to be seen here, but the generality of the houses are of an ordinary and poor description. There is a very handsome and extensive fair-green in Freshford. A neat Roman Catholic chapel is now being built here. The Protestant church is small and plain-looking. From Freshford to Kilkenny you pass through a rich though tame country. Some fine seats meet the traveller's eye as he runs along this line ; amongst others, that of Mr. Bryan, and also that of Mr. Shenton Ball. About four miles from Kilkenny, you fall in with the river Nore, and ride along its banks until you draw close to the city. On a subsequent visit I entered Kilkenny by the Clonmel line. This ride is by no means an interesting one. The first remarkable object that attracts the traveller's notice is Kilshelan Castle, an ancient ruin that stands on the left, in the direction of Slievenamon. Soon after, another castle, and an extensive court-yard, in ruins, called Kilcash Castle, come under observation. It is the property of the Marquis of Ormonde, and is situated more immediately beneath Slievenamon Mountain. Leaving Kilcash, we soon entered a valley or gorge in the mountain, called Glenbowser. Along this mountain-pass, not a tree nor shrub meets the eye of the traveller ; the coarse rock or shingle in some places is partially covered with furze, and interspersed with a light verdure. About two miles from where the tourist emerges from this valley, may be seen the boundary of the counties of Tipperary and Kilkenny, which is defined by a wall composed of the loose stones which so plentifully abound in mountain districts. Having passed this boundary, we soon arrived at Nine-mile House, formerly a popular posting stage, but which the establishment of railroads has rendered poor and desolate. At a small village, called Killaberry, I noticed a small Protestant church, and at the village of Grange, a Roman Catholic chapel. Callan is rather a good town for its extent ; it may be said to consist of four streets, which branch from the centre of the town. The houses, in some instances, are large, and most of them clean

and fresh in appearance. The Roman Catholic chapel is a good house of worship, and that of the Augustinian Friars a handsome one, with a neat tower. The altar-piece, or Crucifixion, in this chapel, is considered of great value, it being an Italian painting. The Protestant church is a plain house of worship, and adjoins a very fine ruin, the western window of which is considered very beautiful. There is very little cultivation along this line, and gentlemen's seats are few and far between. Of these I noticed the seat of the Dowager Marchioness of Ormonde, of Mr. Flood, and also that of Lord Desart, and a fine demesne called Kenny Park, which is within about two or three miles of Kilkenny. Having arrived at Kilkenny, I refreshed myself with tea and a chop, and soon sought the repose which eight hours' travelling rendered exceedingly agreeable.

I arose next morning at six o'clock, and went forth to view the city. My first visit was to St. James's-street Chapel, an old and plain edifice. The residence of the bishop adjoins this chapel. Near to this chapel, and equally near to St. James's-street arch, a new cathedral is now being built. This is a truly magnificent edifice, and will be, when finished, one of the finest Catholic churches of modern times. Its length is 160 feet by 67 feet in the clear; the aisles are 15 feet each, and the nave 30 feet; the piers 3 feet 6 inches; the transepts 30 feet by 30; the baptistry and sacristy each 15 feet by 10; length of the transepts, 106 feet by 30. The crypt, or sacrament chapel, where the altar shall stand, is a five-sided figure, with buttresses, piers, &c. On the lower story there are to be 28 windows, with a large door in front, and one in each transept; all to be elaborately ornamented with capitals. There are to be 54 windows, exclusive of the two transept windows and the great front window, on the second story. The great window is to be magnificent in the extreme, with five mullions supporting tracery and Gothic figures. It will be 17 feet in the clear, by 31 feet from the top of the ceiling to the Gothic arch underneath, with richly moulded jambs, labelled and figured. The materials used in

this building are of fine cut granite. The architect is William Deane Butler, Esq., of Stephen's Green, Dublin. This extensive and beautiful building was undertaken and commenced by the late lamented bishop, Doctor Kenselah. I next visited the Convent of the Presentation, in this vicinity ; it is open to the public at half-past seven o'clock, at which hour mass is celebrated there. After mass, one of the ladies of the sisterhood very kindly honoured me by showing me the chapel, the sacristy, the organ, the pews for the nuns, with a stall for each sister, according to seniority, the vault in which the nuns are interred, and the turret over the vault, in which there is a nice little chapel. She accompanied me through the garden, which is extensive, and neatly laid out. This chapel is very beautiful, and is, I should say, the finest as well as the largest convent chapel I have seen. I stepped it on the outside, and found it 84 feet in length, and 24 feet in breadth ; there are three fine Gothic windows in each side, and a large one in the end, opposite to the altar. The altar is chastely and richly ornamented ; there is a very handsome pulpit standing on the left side, at the point where the neat and light railing divides the sanctuary from that part of the chapel where the public are admitted to attend during the celebration of mass. The ample space beneath the chapel is appropriated to a school—it is lofty and commodious. Numbers of girls are taught in this school by the ladies of the convent, on a system which ensures perfect order and regularity. On taking my leave of this venerable and revered lady, whose name is Mrs. Chantelle, she charged me with her compliments and regards to Mrs. Frayne, the superioress of the Wexford nunnery, and to Mrs. Rossiter, of the nunnery at Enniscorthy, who is also the superioress of that institution. Considering her commands in the light of an imperative duty, I lost no time in executing them. Accordingly, on my return to Wexford, I called at the nunnery, and had the honour of an interview with Mrs. Frayne, who received me with that urbanity which so eminently distinguishes her ; she seemed happy to hear from so

dear and so valued a friend. I was not so fortunate in Ennis-corthy, Mrs. Rossiter having been too much occupied in making preparations for entertaining the bishop and the clergy, who were to breakfast at the convent on the second day after I had paid my visit, on which day the twelvemonths' memory of the late lamented bishop, Doctor Keatinge, was to be celebrated. One of the ladies of the sisterhood took my message, and said that Mrs. Rossiter would be happy to see me on any other occasion.

On leaving the convent I returned to the "Victoria Hotel" and breakfasted, after which I set out to view the grand Castle of Kilkenny. It would be difficult adequately to describe this splendid castle. I have not seen, with the exception of Her Majesty's Palace, Windsor Castle, any building of the kind to equal this magnificent, and, as it may be called, national pile. Having indulged myself in viewing it externally, I was permitted to enter the Picture Gallery. This gallery is a fine oblong room or saloon of 150 feet by 25; I was astonished at its extent, and the splendour of its general appearance; but it is its glorious pictures that form its principal attraction. Here are full-length likenesses of Charles the First, Charles the Second, James the Second, William the Third, William the Fourth, Queen Mary, Henrietta, Queen of Charles the First, Queen Adelaide, the Duke of Ormonde, the Marquis of Ormonde, and a bust of the late Marquis. I was much struck with an elegant piece of sculpture in white marble, representing three figures of boys; the first supporting on his back the second; and the second supporting on his back the third. The workmanship and chiselling are finely executed; it must have been a difficult performance, and, no doubt, is as highly valued as it is delicate and beautiful. Besides the portraits of the royal personages mentioned above, there are several other pictures, many of them, in all probability, superior to those which I have here noticed. The Manuscript Room is considered a very interesting emporium of ancient documents. Here may be seen charters and records so far back as the time of Strongbow.

From the windows of the Picture Gallery, my attention was directed by the person in attendance to the extensive and beautiful park, which can be seen to great advantage from this commanding situation. This is really a delightful picture, and one which, when once seen, cannot easily be forgotten. How gladly would I have lingered here to indulge my predilection for its calm and tranquil scenes! Though an appendage to this palace of magnificence and grandeur, its general characteristics are those of peaceful loveliness. Its widely spreading, verdant lawns, enriched with trees of varied and luxuriant beauty, give to it charms which, even in the mind of dulness itself, must call up feelings of the liveliest admiration. How finely, too, do the rich natural objects without, contrast, and, at the same time, harmonise with, the rare and elaborate artistic works within; their united beauties constituting Ormonde Castle and its environs the immediate home of the sublime and beautiful. The castle itself, when viewed from the St. John's Bridge, that crosses the Nore, is a really magnificent object; while the river, as it sweeps majestically beside this towering monument of architectural taste and feudal power, gives a finish and a beauty to the whole. His lordship's stables, which are immediately opposite the entrance to the castle, are very fine; and might almost be mistaken for a nobleman's residence, from their great extent and highly ornamented appearance. The tourist will be enabled to form a tolerable notion of the extent and beauty of this splendid demesne, from the ample and very delightful walk that runs along the margin of the gently flowing river. This healthful and agreeable promenade is entered by a rich gateway, beside a handsome and characteristic lodge near the foot of St. John's Bridge, and immediately beneath the grand castle. A watchman is placed at this entrance by the corporation, whose duty it is to prevent abuses being committed by idle or disorderly persons. From this walk can be seen St. John's College, a fine courtly building, admirably situated on the eastern bank of the Nore. A rich park lies in front of the college, and divides it from

the placid river. About a quarter of a mile down the river's bank, the tourist becomes struck with the new Lunatic Asylum, which stands on a gentle eminence above the river, which at this point, has all the stillness and tranquillity of a beautiful lake. This magnificent building has been recently erected, and is not yet occupied. It is a very extensive structure, of the Anglo-Saxon style of architecture; the centre and flanking wings are highly ornamented, the whole presenting a very beautiful appearance.

Several mills and factories may be seen along the banks of the river. At about the distance of a mile from the city, and in the vicinity of a large flour-mill, the river falls in a sidelong manner over a slight acclivity, when it loses its tranquil character and becomes rapid and rushing in its course. Trees of fine growth and of great beauty overhang the river and ornament the sides of this pleasing and commodious walk.

The Cathedral of St. Canice is a very grand and extensive specimen of ancient architecture, and second only to the great Limerick Cathedral. It is indeed a noble building. Like most of the ancient churches, its shape is cruciform; the length of the nave and the crypt is over 220 feet, and the transepts over 120 feet. The crypt is appropriated to Protestant worship, and is a handsome church, of an oblong form. The wainscoting and fronts of the pews are of oak, the pulpit and reading-desk are of the same material; the workmanship plain, and without carving. The nave and the aisles are very lofty. In the aisles are to be seen several figures carved in stone, which appear to be of great antiquity. Some of these represent bishops of the diocese; but the greater number, members of the ancient house of Butler.

A fine ancient and massive font, with a corresponding cover, both of cut stone, may be seen in the nave. This was used for holding the holy water at the time when Roman Catholic worship was performed within the cathedral. Amongst other curiosities, a stone called the chair of St. Keiran is pointed out. There is

one very remarkable feature in connection with this building, which is the tall and slender round tower that stands about six feet from the south-eastern angle of the south transept. It is 108 feet in height, and is called the belfry. This is one of the towers that O'Brien has taken so much pains to trace to their origin, and on which he has bestowed so much research, for the purpose of demonstrating their original use; but which neither he nor any other antiquarian with whose writings I am acquainted has yet succeeded in satisfactorily explaining.

The Roman Catholic church of St. Canice—or, as it is sometimes called, the Butts—is a fine modern edifice; the door of the grand entrance is inlaid, with a handsome dome-like arch above it. There is a door on each side of the great door, and over each of these, as well as over the great door itself, a handsome window. There are eight fine windows on each side of this church; there are no galleries within it, and therefore its internal appearance is light and beautiful. The Priory of St. John's is an interesting ruin; the tower is in excellent preservation, and embellishes the Protestant church, which has been erected south of the ancient church. The east window, which was originally enriched with delicate tracery, is still looked upon with admiration by the connoisseur and antiquarian. A burial-ground adjoins this church, and is enclosed by a neat iron railing. Trees and shrubs are growing within this enclosure, which afford a fresh and very agreeable aspect. The Abbey of St. Francis is also a ruin that cannot fail to call up feelings of a reverential nature. The body of the church, though roofless, is still nearly entire; the walls and the tower are in tolerable preservation. At the west end may be seen the ruins of a lofty window, originally of seven lights. The abbey, which adjoins the river, can be seen to advantage from the opposite or eastern side. St. James's Church, a Protestant house of worship, is a plain building; the form that of a T. It is no way remarkable except for its lofty tower and steeple, which are really very beautiful. The Black Abbey is a very extensive and interesting ruin; its shape was cruciform,

with a central tower supported on lofty Gothic arches, ornamented with angular turrets. The nave and south transept are rich specimens of the English decorative style of architecture. Part of the ruin is now a Roman Catholic chapel, and belongs to the friars of the Dominican order. The windows and arches are of elegant design. Several ancient relics, such as stone coffins, are to be seen here, enriched with scriptural characters of exquisite chiselling. At the southern extremity of the ruin there is another tower, the summit of which is approached by flights of rude stone steps. From this elevation can be seen many of the interesting objects which abound in this renowned city. The Roman Catholic College, called St. Keiran's, is situated in the centre of a fine park, about a furlong from the city, and on the right of the Clonmel road. It is a very beautiful building, of the English style of architecture taken from the period, perhaps, of Henry the Seventh. An elegant chapel graces the centre of this edifice, from which a highly ornamented range of buildings extends on each side, which will ultimately be flanked by wings to correspond with the centre. This is indeed an object to be looked upon with much pleasure. In this vicinity I observed a new and very beautiful Presbyterian church. In that part of the suburbs where the railway station is situated, I noticed a very pretty Roman Catholic house of worship, called the Magdalen Chapel, which stands adjacent to an ancient castle. The jail is an object which cannot be overlooked; it has recently had extensive additions made to it, and is at present a very fine feature, quite in keeping with the other magnificent structures which are to be seen in this improved and improving city.

In my recent visit to Kilkenny I was agreeably surprised to perceive the progress which has been made in the grand cathedral which I noticed in my former visit. I found that the walls have been raised to their full height, and that it will be roofed in before the close of the present year. It is a truly magnificent building, and must have cost a very large sum of money to have brought it to its present forward state. The

four fine Gothic arches which will support the tower, are very lofty, being 61 feet from the floor to the point of the arch. The parts of the clustered columns from which the arches spring are 45 feet in height, ornamented with rich capitals. Kilkenny, like most of the old cities and towns in Ireland, is remarkable for the narrowness and irregularity of its streets; there are, however, some pleasing exceptions. In that part of the city which adjoins the Marquis of Ormonde's castle, streets, at once commodious and regular, branch off at right angles, and contain within them fine modern houses. There are some good hotels in this city, amongst which may be mentioned the Club-house, the Victoria and the Railway Hotel. I can speak from experience of the Victoria, and feel much pleasure in being enabled to say, that for cleanliness, comfort, and prompt attention, it is equal to any house of the kind with which I am acquainted. There are several literary institutions in this city. The proceedings of the Archæological Society afford evidence of the learning and deep research of many of its members. Kilkenny furnishes abundant materials for the historian and the antiquarian; and it is to be hoped that, before long, some of its clever men will turn their attention to subjects of this nature, and will gratify the public by an accurate and detailed account of them.

The crops in general in this neighbourhood were but very indifferent; the potatoes had suffered, and the wheat was light, and a poor yield. Distress was prevailing to an alarming extent; there were 3000 persons in the Union-house, and yet the streets were not free from beggars. Speaking of beggars, I felt agreeably surprised to find that there was much less of that class to be found perambulating the face of the country than, under existing circumstances, might have been expected. Perhaps this may be owing to the general poverty of the country, the farmers being, from the failure of the crops and the increasing pressure of the poor-rates, no longer able to render eleemosynary assistance. Whatever the cause may be, strolling beggars were not

so numerous in the southern districts as they were in the neighbourhood of Wexford, and as they appeared to be in the vicinity of Kilkenny.

On the day I left, a meeting was held on a subject vitally interesting to every man in Ireland; namely, "a meeting to promote the establishment of native manufactures in this country." It became the citizens of Kilkenny to be forward and to give the initiative as regards this important movement, and to set an example to other parts of Ireland. In other and happier days their locality experienced the benefits which resulted from a branch of woollen manufactures; but, unfortunately, they have long had cause to deplore its ruin and decay. I saw some samples that were prepared for being exhibited at the meeting; they consisted of tweeds and neat trowserings of the pattern known as "Shepherd's Plaid," and I am proud to say they were of excellent quality.

At half-past two o'clock I walked up to the railway station, and took my seat for Thomastown. At a quarter to three o'clock the train started, when we reached Thomastown in half-an-hour. As you approach this part of the county of Kilkenny the country becomes very interesting, and rich and beautiful seats display themselves.

Thomastown is a small place, nicely situated; its central position, between Waterford, Kilkenny, and Ross, causes it to be a great thoroughfare, and thereby renders it a tolerably good business little town. It also derives considerable advantage from the numerous resident gentry by whom it is surrounded. There are two comfortable hotels in the town, and a branch of the Tipperary bank. The church is a neat building, handsomely situated above the river, which flows beside the site on which it stands; part of the ruin of an old house of worship adjoins the present building. The chapel stands in the eastern end of the town, and is a neat edifice, with a handsome steeple. Since the opening of the Waterford and Kilkenny line of railway from Kilkenny to Thomastown, the inhabitants are complaining; they

say that the articles which were wont to be brought for sale to Thomastown, are now, generally speaking, conveyed by the railway to the Kilkenny market, and, as a matter of course, the money that hitherto was laid out by the country-people in Thomastown, is now expended in the city of Kilkenny. Mount Juliet, the beautiful seat of the Earl of Carrick, is situated at a short distance from Thomastown, and is a rich and magnificent place; the river Nore flows through the centre of the demesne, and adds considerably to its otherwise splendid appearance. Kilfane, the old and fine residence of the distinguished sportsman, Sir John Power, abounds in rare natural advantages, and commands the attention and admiration of the tourist. Kilmurry, the favourite residence of the late renowned Charles Kendal Bushe, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, is a truly beautiful place, and immediately adjoins the demesne of Kilfane, from which it is divided only by the boundary wall; a wicket was opened in this wall for the greater facility of communication between those distinguished neighbours. When shall Kilmurry again have an owner so capable of appreciating its rich, its varied, and its tranquil scenes, as he who has so lately left it, and who has exchanged its calm retirement for that far-distant country, to which those who have admired his genius, and mourned his departure, must soon follow him? Peace to his ashes! He was one of the last, as he was one of the greatest, of the fine school of orators of which Ireland is so justly proud.

The ride from Thomastown to Ross is a most agreeable run; it can scarcely be surpassed for richness and beauty; and cannot fail to impress the mind of the tourist with the most pleasing ideas. Here you have a rare variety, consisting of wood and water, hill and vale; there are few parts of Ireland where the picturesque and beautiful more largely abound. The season of the year and the fineness of the day, gave an additional charm to scenes which are of themselves so eminently lovely.

Again I have to regret that circumstances did not permit me to indulge my long cherished wish of spending a day at Woodstock,

the far-famed seat of the liberal and benevolent Mr. Tighe. I stopped but a short time at the handsome village of Innistioge, after leaving which, I soon arrived in Ross ; when, after a reasonable rest, I was on my way for Wexford.

Amid all the bustle and excitement of my stirring tour, I have longed for home. Home ! that magic word, which brings delight to the soul of the savage, as well as to that of the civilised man. Home ! in the sheltered privacy of which, a sanctuary can be found, where the ruthless invader of man's peace cannot find an entrance. Home ! where the Christian philosopher can best prepare himself for the great change, which, even to the youngest, must soon arrive. Those who are embosomed in a virtuous home, can scarcely appreciate its superlative advantages. To some, perhaps, a temporary absence may be considered a blessing ; for, without such absence, its real advantages cannot be truly known or properly understood.

I arrived in Wexford this evening, after an absence of three weeks.

CHAPTER XIV.

BRISTOL CITY.

IN the early part of the month of June, 1851, having business of importance to transact in London, I availed myself of the invitation of my friend, Captain John Murphy, of the "Wave," to make a trip with him to Gloucester, and to proceed by that route to the great city. Accordingly, on Wednesday, the 4th, we sailed from the quay of Wexford, at eight o'clock in the morning, with a favourable slant of wind ; crossed the bar at half-past nine, and were clear of the Tuskar at half-past eleven. The wind was, at this time, about west-south-west, and blew

rather stiffly. When about two miles clear of the Tuskar, I felt the first symptoms of sea-sickness, which was occasioned by the wind being somewhat askaunt until we rounded the "Smalls." As we neared the last-mentioned place it blew fiercely, and it being necessary that we should pass south of these rocks, I could perceive that the captain and mate were very anxious touching the ship's being able to weather this point; but from the circumstance of her being loaded rather than in ballast, she the more easily accomplished it.

Having cleared the "Smalls," the wind was free, but blew what might be designated a gale; and, as the night set in thick and hazy, it was ten o'clock before we made the Milford Light. At four o'clock on the morning of the 5th, we made the "Worm Head," and at six, "Lundy Island," when we entered the Bristol Channel. At eight o'clock we made the "Mumbles," and Swansea, when the day cleared up with a brisk and fair wind. On Wednesday night we had occasional showers, and on Thursday morning the rain fell in torrents. We carried full sail from the "Tuskar" to the "Smalls;" but when we weathered that point, we at once shortened the sail, and placed the vessel under the gib, topsail, and reefed mainsail; at this time it was blowing very hard, and the captain said that he had not seen a heavier sea in the Channel during the whole winter. The appearance of the English shore, along this channel, is that of a bold coast; the Welsh shore bears a greater resemblance to the Irish land. I noticed, as we sailed through the Channel, Barry Island, and the copper mines of Port Talbot; and, at a considerable distance on the English coast, Elford Combe, Mine Head, Walshet, and Bridgewater. We now approached the rocks called the "Flat and Steep Holms," passing north of them; there is a lighthouse on the flat rock. At this point we took a pilot on board, and obtained a view of the harbour of Cardiff, in which there were several vessels; and soon after we had a tolerable view of Newport. We passed the light-ship about half past eight o'clock, with a fine breeze from the west;

the weather was sharp and bracing, and the crescent moon shone out brightly and clearly. Here we had a view of a handsome village, called Cleaveden, situated on the English coast ; and here also we had a view of the Newport and Bristol Lights. At ten o'clock we passed "Port's Head," vulgarly called "Point Posset," and cast anchor in "King Road," completing our voyage to this anchorage in thirty-eight hours after leaving the Quay of Wexford. Friday morning opened wild and misty, and dreariness and gloom hung over that part of the Channel which was open to our view. At seven o'clock the pilot came on board, when the ship was got under weigh to proceed to Gloucester.

Having ascertained from the pilot that the vessel could not reach Gloucester on that day, I at once determined to go by a steamer to Bristol, when I took my leave of Captain Murphy, to whom, to his son, and to his people in general, I shall ever feel bound to acknowledge my thanks for the kindness and attention I experienced at their hands.

"Point Posset" presents a handsome appearance, and, in some respects, may be considered not unlike "Cheek Point," in the Waterford River.

There are several neat and fanciful cottages running along the side of the hill, at a short distance above the strand : while the summit, which is richly planted, has a fresh and verdant aspect. Looking to the right, or eastward of this point, the country appears to great advantage, being at once rich and thickly studded with villas and fine plantations ; amongst them, the seats of Mr. Gordon and Mr. Kinton. The church at this place is a neat, though small building ; in the rear of which, on the height, stands the village of Portshead.

On entering the Bristol River, we passed a large bank, of a circular form, called the "Dung Ball," which forms an island, an arm of the river flowing round it. Pill is a comfortable-looking village, of a peculiar appearance ; there is a pilot-station at this place. Lamplighter's Hall, on the opposite side of the

river, forms a landing-place for steamers, and is much used by the Cork and Waterford boats ; there are a few good-looking houses in this landing-place. Passing Pill, you fall in with a very fine and well-wooded demesne, which belongs to Mr. Miles, M.P. for the city of Bristol ; and on the east side of the river, an extensive tract of beautiful country, several miles in length, which belongs to the mother of that gentleman. Moving up the river, I noticed the powder magazine, and also Sea Mill Dock, which has long been a dépôt for the South Sea fishermen, where they were in the habit of boiling and purifying their oil before carrying it to Bristol. On an eminence on the same side of the river stands a small structure of a turreted character, which is called "Cooke's Folly," and which, according to an ancient tradition, was built by a gentleman of that name, for the purpose of preserving his son from the dreaded sting of a viper ; it having been predicted by some seer, who had acquired celebrity in this district, that the son of Mr. Cooke would, before he arrived at a certain age, be stung to death by the before-mentioned reptile. In order to obviate the dreadful realisation of this prediction, the provident parent caused this turret or fortress to be built, in which he lodged his child for safety, and in which he resided for many years, his food, fuel, and other necessities being drawn to the top of the building by means of a rope. At length the expiration of the dreaded period had arrived, and the next day was to restore the long-imprisoned youth to the embraces of his family and friends. But alas, how vain the care and precaution which, in this instance, were resorted to ; as the reptile which, according to the prediction was to have destroyed him, had been conveyed by his father, in a faggot of firewood, to his retreat. This faggot was the very last of the kind that he could have required. Thus, notwithstanding all the paternal care which was bestowed upon him, he fell a victim to the reptile against which he was so long and so sedulously guarded. This story was detailed to me by the captain of the steam-tug, with all the earnestness with

which a superstitious conviction of its truth could invest it; thus proving that the Irish are not the only people who are open to the influence of superstition and credulity. The following anecdote is of modern date, and cannot, like the preceding story, be considered a fabulous tale. Some speculative merchants in Bristol formed themselves into a company, for the purpose of supplying the city with water, in opposition to the old water company. With this view they commenced and established extensive works, which involved an expense of 30,000*l.*, but by a strange oversight they not only commenced their undertaking, but had nearly completed it, before they applied for an Act of Parliament to legalise their project. The old company, less supine, applied for and obtained an act which gave to them the exclusive right of supplying the entire city with water. Thus, the works of the new company have become useless and nugatory, notwithstanding the vast expense attending their erection; and the engine-house, which stands where these works were established, now goes by the name of the "Merchants' Folly." On a rocky eminence, as viewed from the river, stands the observatory, on the site where formerly stood a snuff-mill. In the side of this rock, which is almost perpendicular, can be seen the entrance to a sort of cave, called the "Giant's Hole." This cave can be entered from that part of the height where the observatory stands. A young man, some time since, passed from the upper entrance, to the aperture which can be seen from the river, when, by some accident, he lost his balance, and was precipitated to the base of the rock, a distance of perhaps 100 feet, and was killed on the spot. Soon after this melancholy affair took place, an iron grating was placed in front of the hole or aperture from which the ill-fated young man fell. The heights in the neighbourhood of Clifton are beset with much danger; the magnificence of the views which can be obtained from them constantly tempt visitors to approach too near the edges of the cliffs; and as there are no sort of protecting works, whereby accidents can be prevented, warning placards are, necessarily,

posted on poles in many places, in order to warn rash or inexperienced persons of the danger they may incur by a want of due caution. A respectable, interesting, and beautiful young lady fell a victim to her temerity in approaching, too closely, these dangerous precipices a few years ago. Her father and herself had been stopping, for a few days, in the neighbourhood of Clifton, and were wont to indulge in the pleasures which the beautiful walks that abound in this delightful place afford. One morning they set out as usual, and continued their exercise until the hour of breakfast had nearly arrived, when, as they were on their return home, he took a path different from the one she had chosen—hers being that which leads to the cliffs that overlook the valley of the Avon. When he arrived at their lodgings, he was a little surprised to find that she had not returned, and having waited for some time, in the momentary expectation of seeing her enter, he set out again for the purpose of accompanying her home. He hastened to the place where, from the path she had taken, he expected to find her, but to his great mortification he could discover no trace of her. Having sought her in vain, he called her loudly by her name, but alas! he received no answer. Filled with agitation and alarm, he returned again to the house, when his confusion and terror were increased on finding that she had not reached home. In a state bordering on distraction, he again went forth in search of her, assisted, as may be supposed, by the inmates of their dwelling. The first object which afforded a clue to their interesting search, was her bonnet, that was found by one of the party. This circumstance increased their fears, which were but too soon confirmed in all their dreadful reality, as her body was discovered beneath the cliff from which she had fallen. It is needless to say that life was extinct, for no human being could fall from such a height and live. The supposition is, that she approached too closely the edge of the precipice, when a gust of wind having caught her dress, hurried her over the cliff. I spent some time adjacent to the spot from which she fell, and I am quite convinced that even

a strong man could not with impunity approach near the edge of the precipice, during a gale of wind, as the ground slopes in a downward direction, towards the extreme edge. These particulars were detailed to me, if not in the same words, at least in substance, by the lady at whose house I stopped the evening I spent in Bristol. During her recital of the melancholy facts, her eyes were sometimes suffused with tears, and her feminine sensibility won my unaffected respect. I have a distinct recollection of having seen an account of the accident in the newspapers at the time it occurred.

At a short distance from the "Giant's hole" may be seen the handsome piers which have been erected for the intended Suspension Bridge; they have a light as well as a substantial appearance. An architect has recently proposed to throw a single stone arch over the Avon at this point, if the parties interested will furnish him with funds sufficient for its accomplishment. In this vicinity there are very neat gardens and walks along the banks of the river, with bowers, alcoves, and tea-houses; they are much frequented in the summer season. Arriving at Bristol, I drove at once to the railway station, but in consequence of the delay which was occasioned by the tug-boat having two large vessels in tow, I was too late for the London third-class train. I therefore determined to wait for the train of the next day, and rejoice exceedingly, that circumstances so far favoured me as to cause me to remain for a day in Bristol. My first impulse on missing the train was to take a fly, and to run on to Bath; but the day coming on to rain caused me to alter my determination.

Having made up my mind to remain in Bristol, I set out at once to visit Clifton Down, viewing the public buildings as I went along. The first object that attracted my attention was the church of St. Nicholas, which stands at the foot of Bristol Bridge. This is a handsome modern edifice with a light and elegant steeple, surmounted with a cross and cock, and is a Protestant church where Puseyite principles prevail. At a short

distance from this stands the church of All Saints, with a handsome cupola, surmounted by a golden ball and cross. This building stands at the end of Corn-street. Christ Church, St. John's Church, and Werburgh's Church, all Church of England buildings, may be seen within a comparatively short distance of each other in this neighbourhood. I noticed also in this part of the city, the Exchange, the Council House, the Guildhall, a magnificent building, and the Branch of the Bank of England. Fronting St. Augustin's Parade stands St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, a fine edifice, with a porch supported by six fluted columns, with Corinthian capitals; the rear, which fronts Hoe-street, has a similar number of columns. St. Stephen's Church, in Stephen-street, a Protestant church, is a fine ancient building, with a massive tower, ornamented on each angle with handsome pinnacles, the principal of which is surmounted by a cock; there are other devices on the three smaller ones. The church of St. Augustine, which stands at the end of the so-called Parade, is an old and small building. The Bristol Cathedral, which is situated near College Green, is a magnificent ancient structure. In the rear of the cathedral stands the ruin of a chapel, said to have been blown down by Oliver Cromwell. In this ruin may be seen a handsome window, in a state of tolerable preservation.

It is difficult to account for the motive which could have induced Cromwell to commit this act of vandalism on this fine church.

The chancel window of the cathedral is large and very beautiful; the tower is massive and richly wrought, with a handsome window, not so large as that of the chancel; there are two smaller windows, one on each side of the tower. The part called the Deanery stands west of the cathedral, and somewhat apart from it. This is a very extensive as well as a very beautiful building, and may be considered a splendid remnant of antiquity. I sought for but could not obtain access to the interior of it. College Green is a spacious area of a triangular

shape ; the streets that are formed on each of its three sides, all bear the same name, being that of the Green itself. The Public Institution or Museum in Park-street is a fine building. The Asylum for the Blind, at the top of the same street, is a new and commodious structure. Brandon Hill, from which can be seen nearly the whole of the city, with its churches and public buildings, is well worthy of a visit. St. George's Church, which is a chapel of ease, is a neat house of worship ; and the same may be said of the Independent Chapel, Lodge-street. The new Roman Catholic cathedral, Park-place, or Clifton Park, is an extensive church, which has been erected under the immediate superintendence of the bishop, Doctor Hendren, who resides in a new house which immediately adjoins the church. He chanced to be overlooking some workmen in the garden, when I paid my visit ; and on my respectful solicitation, sent a person to show me the interior of the church. This building is 150 feet in length and 55 feet in breadth, with transepts which give it the form of a T ; it is of a plain character, with a flat roof. The walls are supported externally by six heavy three-quarter columns on each side, and by an equal number of buttresses and pilasters on the inside. The aisles are divided from the nave by wooden pillars, ten on each side ; between every two of these pillars a wooden arch is formed, which gives to the whole a neat and light appearance. The breadth of the nave is 30 feet, and the aisles 12 feet 6 inches ; handsome seats and kneeling places occupy the nave, leaving an open space of about six feet in the centre. The altar is enclosed by a screen which stands about twelve feet in height, and projects on a line with the front of the transepts. The right hand transept is appropriated to two lesser altars, one of which is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin ; the left hand transept forms the vestry, over which stands an organ. Above the altar is a handsome, circular, stained glass window, and in each of the transepts a smaller one of an oblong form, arched on the top, and also of stained glass. There are three windows on each side of the church of the same

character as those in the transepts. On the north of the cathedral stands the convent of the Sisters of Mercy, a large and commodious house with a neat chapel attached. The cathedral, the bishop's residence, the convent of the Sisters of Mercy, with their chapel, together with the gardens and pleasure grounds, render the whole a very extensive and beautiful concern. The Victoria Rooms, which are appropriated to concerts, and such like public amusements, are a new and splendid suite of apartments, and present the richest appearance; they are situated at Richmond Terrace.

At Westbourne-place there is a row of new and elegant houses. At Buckingham-place I noticed a very beautiful building, which is a Baptist chapel—a really neat and handsome house, both as regards its external and internal appearance. At one end of it there is a handsome pulpit, and at the other a splendid organ, while a neat gallery surrounds the entire building, with the exception of that part where the pulpit stands; neat and well-furnished pews are fitted up in the body of the chapel.

Arlington-place, and Victoria Park and Square, are all new and very elegant places; in fact in all parts of the suburbs of this city, the hand of improvement is quite perceptible. The old part of Bristol preserves more of its ancient appearance than does any of the cities or towns which I have visited; while the new or suburban parts present an appearance of elegance and refinement which can scarcely be surpassed even in London. Arriving at Clifton Down, a magnificent view presents itself to the visitor, at once both beautiful and extensive.

From this commanding situation the eye can take in a range of country quite as interesting, although not perhaps so enlarged, as that which can be seen from the summit of William the Conqueror's tower at Windsor Castle.

What a change was now perceptible in the Avon River; but a few hours before I passed up by the steamer with two large

vessels in tow, at which time it might be called an arm of the sea, deep and swollen, capable of floating the largest ships ; and now while I am making this note it appears a stream scarcely sufficient to accommodate a cockboat ; such is the rise and fall of the tide in this river. What a world of melody bursts upon the ear in this delightful place ! from the numerous throats of blackbirds, thrushes, and the other well known choristers of the grove ; while the hollow cuckoo occasionally chimes in, and gives a finish and a pathos to nature's sweetest music. Well indeed may Englishmen boast of their country ; it is impossible for the most prejudiced native of another land to sit as I have sat, and to witness what I have witnessed, without admitting the claims of England to a full equality, at least, with the most favoured and refined parts of the world.

I lingered for a while in the vicinity of the "Nightingale Valley," in the hope that I might be so fortunate as to catch a note from that celebrated queen of song ; but the day being dark and misty, was perhaps the cause that this matchless songstress did not put forth her melody. I walked over portions of Clifton Down, and the adjoining grounds, and saw in the distance King's Weston, and Lee Court estates, now the property of Mr. Miles.

King's Weston formerly belonged to Lord de Clifford. Some of the enthusiastic admirers of this fine place are complaining of the inroads which are every day being made in this neighbourhood. Lordly mansions and elegant villas are everywhere appearing, and making incursions on the space which, hitherto, has been entirely appropriated to landscape beauty. An entire day is far too short for the delectable enjoyment which this interesting locality affords ; but imperious circumstances forbade the further indulgence of that pleasure in which I would so gladly have luxuriated.

Returning from the Down I noticed the City School, a very large and magnificent building. It is composed of fine red brick, with cut stone cornices. This institution reflects the

highest credit on those whose liberality endowed, and whose benevolence sustains and supports it. The Temple Church is an ancient building, which has grown grey with age; the tower is elaborately wrought, and has a striking appearance. In the vicinity of the Roman Catholic church of St. Mary's, there is a small Roman Catholic chapel. At the hour of the day when I called in their neighbourhood I could not obtain admission to them. At six o'clock in the evening, service took place in St. Mary's Church, but I found it impossible to attend, without being obliged to forego the gratification of seeing many of the objects which I have here mentioned. I continued to wander through the principal streets, and along the quays, until night set in, when I returned to my hotel and retired early, not having had much repose while running from Wexford to Bristol.

On Saturday morning, about half-past ten o'clock, I started by the third class train for London. The carriages were crowded with respectable persons who were proceeding to see the Crystal Palace. Near the Keynsham station I saw a large number of horses, probably over two hundred, which were at pasture on some fine parks. The country from Bristol to Bath seems very rich, and of an undulating character; we passed under four tunnels between these two cities. At the Bath station we had a reasonably good view of this really magnificent city. The houses appear to be of a uniform and truly palace-like character, and are composed of the finest building materials. Bath Abbey is an extensive and very grand building with a magnificent tower, which rises in the centre of four ornamented pinnacles; there are two pinnacles of the same character and appearance on the north and south extremities of the abbey. St. Michael's Church, with its light and handsome tower and steeple, shows to great advantage. On the heights above the city are to be seen rich and splendid mansions and elegant villas, which cannot fail to attract the notice and admiration of the traveller. Putney House and Sydney Gardens, in the suburbs of the city, are extensive and lovely places. Near the Box station is the

entrance to the great tunnel, which is three miles in length. I counted 380 at a moderate rate, while the train was passing through it. At the Chippenham station we took up considerable numbers of persons who were on their route to London. At the Wootton Bassett station additional carriages were added to the train, for the accommodation of the numbers who were increasing at each station. I observed that an immense breadth of country was sown with corn along this line, which in general presented a healthy and vigorous appearance. The fields are very large; they appear like prairies, when contrasted with the small enclosures which are so frequently to be seen in Ireland. While I surveyed these extensive parks, pregnant with promise, I could not help admitting, that, after all, agriculture must be considered the right arm of the state.

I noticed along this line, which comprises within it parts of the counties of Wiltshire and Berkshire, several large and fine orchards. At the Didcot station we stopped for three quarters of an hour, in order that the express train might be allowed to pass: here, also, considerable accessions to our numbers took place. I also noticed, at the Wallington Road station, immense tracts under corn, beans, and clover; several of these enclosures extend over more than a mile of country. The line from Bristol to London appears to me much more interesting than that through which I passed from London to Liverpool. The country is not so tame and flat, but is diversified by hill and dale, and at this season of the year, appears both rich and beautiful. Here no rock or crag ever meets the eye; all is genial culture or fine plantation, occasionally interspersed with verdant pasture. In Ireland we have bolder and more striking objects, such as the rugged mountain and the dark ravine, the towering hill and the deep valley; but here the country is less precipitous, more undulating, and, although partaking less of the sublime and picturesque, presents an appearance of constant and unvarying beauty. Reading station adjoins the town of that name, which is a very handsome place, and shows evidence of

considerable and recent improvement. I noticed a very handsome church here. The gaol is a beautiful and highly ornamented building, composed of the very finest brick with cut stone cornices. There are gardens and neat walks within its precincts. The unpleasant feelings and disagreeable ideas, which arise from a proximity to such an institution, are entirely subdued by the neatness and beauty of this prison. At the Maidenhead station can be seen a very neat bridge, which crosses the river at that place. At the Slough station we had an excellent view of Windsor Castle. Approaching the Paddington station I was much struck with Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, which affords accommodation to the infirm, or rather to the insane, who belong to the county of Middlesex.

We reached the Paddington station at half-past nine o'clock, nearly two hours after the usual time. This was owing to the great numbers who were flocking to London, it being Whitsun-eve. This was the largest parliamentary train, and conveyed the greatest number of persons, that ever travelled on the Great Western line. There were thirty-six carriages in the train, and the amount received from the passengers was estimated at 1000*l*. The pressure and confusion which took place at the station was indeed considerable ; it was eleven o'clock before I could get my luggage, and I was far from being the last person served. I arrived at my lodgings at half-past eleven, and have here to record my gratitude to the kind friend, through whose recommendation I was so comfortably placed.

CHAPTER XV.



LONDON, AND THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

ON Sunday morning I went to Moorfields, or Finsbury Roman Catholic church, and was equally pleased with the appearance of the church, with the service, and the sermon. The singing which I heard on this occasion was by far the most splendid that it has been my lot to hear in the way of sacred music. Madame Temple, and Madame Lanauze, were two of the leading vocalists. Several foreigners were present, who seemed greatly to admire the singing. A pastoral letter of Cardinal Wiseman's was read on the subject of a collection for the erection of churches, which was to be made on the following Sunday. Amongst other matters, it recited that three new churches were commenced in this diocese—one at Hammersmith, one at Poplar, and another at a place that I cannot now remember. Three others are to be commenced forthwith; the first stone will be laid for one of them in a few days.

In the evening I attended at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. This is Cardinal Wiseman's church. There were great numbers in attendance, as it was expected the Cardinal would preach. However, in this they were disappointed, his Eminence being fatigued from the labours of the morning, when he preached, and after the sermon confirmed four hundred children. A young clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Daniel, delivered a very fine sermon on the descent of the Holy Ghost; he had his manuscript before him, and his style and manner struck me as being chaste and beautiful. A benediction followed, which was solemn and imposing in the extreme. I have never seen anything of the kind to be compared with it. It was the close of evening,

- and there were four hundred candles lighting ; more than fifty clergymen and youths formed the procession. The Cardinal himself officiated, with a loftiness and dignity of bearing such as I have never seen equalled. His figure is majestic, being full six feet in height. His voice is clear and sonorous, and of great compass. Nature seems to have endowed him with powers and advantages that are quite in keeping with the exalted position which he has been called upon to fill. The singing was good, but not at all equal to what I had heard in the morning at Moorfields' Church. I was accompanied to St. George's Church by my friend, Mr. G. French, whose politeness and attention to me, during my late sojourn in London, I shall ever feel bound to acknowledge. His excellent partner, Mrs. French, has impressed on my mind similar sentiments of regard and respect. We met at church his eldest child, a very interesting girl of ten
- years old, who was accompanied by the lady under whose care she was placed as a boarder. This lady, whose name is Miss Brennan, is an accomplished woman, and, together with her sister, takes charge of a limited number of young ladies as boarders. On Monday morning I called at Connaught Place, the residence of Sir Robert Fitzwygram, Baronet, and witnessed his signature to leases which I had brought over with me from Wexford. One of these leases is made to the trustees of the new Roman Catholic churches which are now being built in Wexford, of a piece of ground 300 feet in length, and 22 feet in breadth, for a term of 900 years, and for a nominal rent of one shilling a year. This ground immediately adjoins the site of the new church at Upper Rowe-street. The liberality of the excellent baronet, and of his relative and agent, Robert Hughes, Esq., has impressed the respected pastor of Wexford, the Rev. James Roche, with sentiments of the warmest gratitude ; and similar feelings of gratitude and respect are cherished by the parishioners in general. During the time I remained with Sir Robert, he spoke in terms of great kindness of Mr. Hughes, and of other members of his family ; and on my departure, he

charged me, in a most emphatic manner, with his kindest regards to him.

On my return from Connaught Place I called into St. Paul's, and viewed the monuments. Workmen were employed in removing from the centre of the building the woodwork which remained after the festival of Thursday the 5th of June. This festival was for the benefit of the schools, on which occasion a sermon was preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury. I then proceeded to Beaufort Buildings, where the excellent Mrs. Ternan resided, to deliver up to her daughter, Miss Maria, a dog of a peculiar breed and very small size, which I brought over with me as a present to her. She seemed greatly delighted with him, and in a short time their partiality was mutual. On this evening I had the pleasure of accompanying a party of friends to Drury-lane, and we set out immediately after tea to secure good places.

The play was "Ingomar," a new piece from the pen of Mrs. Lovel, late Miss Lacy, with the afterpiece, for the seventy-first time, of "Azael, or the Prodigal." The house was well and fashionably attended, and the play was well received. Mr. Anderson and Miss Vandenhoff, the hero and heroine of the piece, were called for at the end of the second act, and again at the end of the play. The authoress was also loudly called for, and acknowledged the compliment from one of the side boxes, when I had an opportunity of seeing a lady who has distinguished herself as an actress, and whose character in private life is quite in keeping with her fame and celebrity as a public character. Having known her in girlhood, I was happy and delighted to witness her success as a playwright. I had also an opportunity of seeing her husband, Mr. Lovel, who is the author of "The Wife's Secret." The play consists of a simple and pleasing plot, but, in my opinion, it requires pruning, and would in all probability be much improved if condensed into a three-act piece. The impression on my mind is, that in its present shape it is not likely to attain a very durable popularity. Mr. Anderson is a

showy rather than a refined actor; he possesses a good figure and an excellent voice, but, according to my judgment, he lacks genius, and, therefore, never can become great in his profession. Miss Vandenhoff, on the contrary, possesses both genius and feeling, and can never cease to be a favourite while she can command the presence of an enlightened audience. She was eminently successful as the heroine of the piece. The afterpiece, "Azael, or the Prodigal," is a gorgeous spectacle, and was both effective and successful, and second to nothing of the kind which has been produced in modern times. Mr. Anderson, whose *forte* lies in melodramatic parts, was very happy in his assumption of this character, and received repeated marks of the most decided approbation. On the whole, the entertainments were as rich as they were novel, and added considerably to the treasury; they were announced for the succeeding evening amid loud applause.

On Tuesday morning I took an omnibus to Charing-cross, and proceeded to view the National Gallery, where I spent an hour. I then called at Northumberland House, and, on leaving my card, was told by the servant in attendance that on the following day I could obtain tickets which would enable me to see the house and picture-gallery, and also the seat of the Duke, Sion House. I then went to the Lord Chamberlain's office, and, on giving my card, procured an order to view the House of Lords, which, during the Whitsuntide recess, was open to the public. This is a truly magnificent and gorgeous chamber, and in every way worthy of the venerable and august body for whose accommodation it has been prepared—the mighty peers of England. On leaving the House of Lords, I paid a visit to Westminster Abbey, and again went through the several chapels, and viewed once more its interesting monuments. Truly it is a glorious place. Numbers of the most respectable persons, both ladies and gentlemen, were in attendance, many of them foreigners of distinction. To those who have a craving for mingling with persons of *ton*, the Abbey at this time held out no inconsiderable

attraction. On my return I called into the Lyceum Theatre, and witnessed a burlesque, or fairy extravaganza, called "King Charming." There was some very excellent dancing introduced in the course of the evening, but the scenery and machinery were beautiful in the extreme; indeed I never saw anything in this way to equal them. On Wednesday morning I again looked into St. Paul's, it being close to where I lodged. Passing by Ludgate Hill I was much struck with Harvey's great establishment: the shop is very lofty; each of the windows is composed of four panes of plate glass, about thirty feet in height; and the door, which is in the centre of the shop, is of the same height, and is composed of similar material. This of itself may be called an exhibition. Arriving at Temple Bar, I made application to see the Temple Church, but could not obtain admission without a benchers' order, whereupon I called on Mr. Wyat, No. 2, Figtree Court, and obtained his order. This church is a really beautiful and elegant structure, and was an appendage to the palace formerly occupied by Henry the Eighth and Cardinal Wolsey. The gardens in the rear are very fine, and show to great advantage from the river. I will not attempt a description of this really beautiful church. Any one who has the slightest pretensions to architectural taste, should never leave London without having seen this rarest of gems. I next looked into Somerset House, which so often attracted my attention as I sailed on the river. It is indeed a great building; in the court there is a good statue of George the Third, and also a fine allegorical figure of old Father Thames. I next called at Northumberland House, and, on giving a duplicate card, obtained the tickets of admission already mentioned.

I then entered the park by the Horse Guards, and proceeded by the Bird Cage Walk to Buckingham Palace, and thence to the Exhibition. The morning being beautifully fine, I lingered to hear the birds sing, and to see the swans and other aquatic fowl disport themselves on the fine sheet of water which may be seen in this neighbourhood. Numbers of pedestrians were

enjoying the delightful recreation which the walks and parks afforded, while troops of juveniles were lying and sitting, or running along the velvet sward. On the Serpentine, that sweeps through Hyde Park, a miniature frigate is to be seen, which was drawn up from Woolwich on a large van : she was worked by a crew of boys. Pleasure-boats of every make and rig were to be seen on this part of the Serpentine. From the pleasure and enjoyment I experienced in my delightful walk, I thought it almost a sacrifice to relinquish it, even for the Crystal Palace.

At one o'clock I entered this temple of human ingenuity and skill, and was struck with astonishment when the immense prospect it presents broke upon my view. It will not be expected that I should venture a description of this wonderful place. It is not given to man to accomplish, successfully, so herculean a task. No doubt, in due time, and from numerous sources, all this will be achieved ; but when it shall be completed, volumes, little inferior in bulk to the Encyclopædia, will be filled with the details of its multifarious and interesting objects. I soon determined upon what I conceived to be the most profitable course to be adopted by one whose visits might be limited to two or three occasions, and commenced at once to walk through the nave, from the main entrance to the extremity. I next took the transepts, and afterwards the several galleries, noticing, as I went along, that which I considered most worthy of attention when I should make my subsequent visits. On passing the Swiss Department, my attention was arrested by some curious and interesting objects, at once ingenious and useful. Amongst others, a chronometer, warranted not to lose a second in a year. A fine gold watch, which goes for 370 days without being wound. A miniature gold watch, which would not, perhaps, weigh more than a quarter of an ounce, that goes for thirty hours. Another, still less, which is not more than half the size, that goes for thirty-six hours. A pistol, perfect in every respect as to appearance, which is kept in a tiny satin box, and that weighs but a single grain. A microscope is kept for the purpose of enabling

visitors to see to advantage these minute objects. Her Majesty spent twenty minutes in looking at these interesting curiosities, on the morning of the day on which I made this visit. The most superficial observer must be struck with the beautiful statuary which is to be seen in every quarter of this vast emporium. The great Koh-i-noor diamond stands in a very conspicuous situation, and is sure to be inquired after by every one who enters; but, when seen, seems to disappoint the beholder, as its appearance bears merely a resemblance to an ordinary piece of fine cut glass. The Durria-i-noor, or "Sea of light" diamond, one of the trophies of Lahore, was, by the East India Company, exhibited to the general view, and divided public attention with the far-famed Koh-i-noor, or "Mountain of light." These invaluable gems were enclosed in a large iron cage, constructed so as to let down, each evening, in an iron box or safe beneath the floor, secured by one of Chubb's patent locks. The interest excited by the Queen of Spain's jewels was considerably more intense, for the policeman in charge of them found great difficulty to induce the anxious crowd to approach with systematic order. His directions were, that all persons should pass from right to left, in single files, along the barrier which stands about three feet from the cabinet in which the jewels are placed. While thus endeavouring to carry into effect what is so necessary for the comfort of the visitors themselves, he displays an admirable tact, accompanied by a fine command of temper.

France, Spain, Austria, Russia, Belgium, the Zollverein, Italy, Persia, Turkey, and India are rich in articles of splendour and *vertu*. America seems the most barren of any of the departments. It would be superfluous to say that for solid and substantial richness, England stands unrivalled. Even poor Ireland excites attention by her beautiful specimens of linens, tabinets, and poplins. Some splendid carving in wood, and cabinet-work, appear from the establishment of Mr. Jones, of Stephen's Green, Dublin, and some rich fanciful articles in

glass from the city of Waterford. I noticed, in the United Kingdom department, a magnificently embroidered lady's saddle, by W. Middlemore, which I thought a great curiosity; and in that part of the same department, where the models are exhibited, I observed the following:—the coining press, by Maudslay and Sons; the model of the Britannia Bridge, by J. James; model of the Victoria and Albert Yacht, by Daniel Harvey; and the model of the Isle of Wight, by Captain Ibbetson. In the department of France, I saw the following articles:—The great topographical map of France; a coloured daguerreotype of the moon; assortments of morocco and kid leathers, of different colours, with prepared calfskins, boot-fronts, &c., and a fine slate billiard-table. In the Austrian department I beheld a curious vestment, called a national cloak, made of lamb-skins, and also a painting on glass, representing Dante, and some of his ideas. In the department of Spain I noticed a singular curiosity, being a dress made from the fibre of the pine-apple; and in that of Portugal, rare specimens of artificial flowers composed of feathers, from the nunnery of Santa Clara. In the department of Belgium, I observed various samples of mosaic floors and tables; and in the Turkish department, a magnificent collection of skins, sent forward by his Majesty the Sultan. In the Prussian department I saw a splendid cabinet of amber; and in those of India and China, magnificent bedsteads. In the department of Tuscany, I noticed a beautiful table in Florentine mosaic; and in that of Sardinia, a splendidly inlaid table. In the department of Switzerland I beheld a splendid model of Strasburg Cathedral; and in that of the United States, beautiful daguerreotypes. Alas! I fear I have been playing the fool by my silly recapitulation.

Having heard that at seven o'clock the bell would ring to warn the visitors that the time for their departure had arrived, I took time by the forelock, and left at half-past six, and was amply repaid for my careful anticipation of the stated period; for just as I entered the equestrian ride that runs from the Exhibition to Apsley House, at Hyde Park Corner, her Majesty

rode by in an open carriage, accompanied by three of the royal children. Thus I had an opportunity of seeing, not only the best of sovereigns, but the best of wives and mothers. There were but two horses under the carriage, which was preceded by two outriders in scarlet liveries; while two servants similarly attired were seated behind the carriage. The coachman was dressed in blue and gold, with white smalls. Numbers of equestrians—ladies and gentlemen—splendidly mounted, were to be seen galloping along this ride, while innumerable carriages were driving along the banks of the Serpentine and through Piccadilly.

On Thursday morning I proceeded again to the Crystal Palace, which was even more crowded than on the previous day. There were nearly 50,000 persons present. Some specimens had arrived from India on this day. On this occasion I walked through the nave, the transepts, the galleries, and such of the departments as, with the assistance of a catalogue, I thought most worthy of notice. I was particularly struck, as all visitors must have been, with the splendid statuary, which, from its perfection in many instances, and its great truthfulness in general, speaks in mute eloquence the language of the richest and purest poetry. The colossal Bavarian lion, the Amazon whose horse has been pounced upon by a tiger, Mazeppa bound upon the wild horse, Virginius, the Happy and Unhappy Children, are so placed as to fall under the notice of the most careless visitor. But those who wish to see the most rare specimens of this divine art, will have to seek for them in the Italian, the Milanese, and the Austrian departments. The magnificent furniture in the Austrian department calls forth the wonder of the admiring beholder; the beds, the tables, the chairs, and sofas, are equally rich and chastely gorgeous. While here, I noticed a beautiful statue of "Eurydice," in marble; a statue of "Achilles Wounded;" and "David slinging the Stone." A beautiful statue of the "Dying Gladiator" is to be seen in the Tuscan department; and a very lovely one of "Cupid

Disarmed" in that of Belgium. In the United States department the beautiful statue of the "Greek Slave," by Hiram Powers, is very generally admired; in this department I observed a beautiful daguerreotype of the Moon, and a statue of "Richard Cœur de Lion," in plaster. In the United Kingdom department may be seen very fine statuary; amongst others, the "Drunken Fawn," by J. Hogan; with statues of "Flaxman," and of the brothers the Lords "Eldon" and "Stowell;" and a handsome group in marble, by Watson. Baird's Electric Telegraph, in this department, excited much attention: one of similar description is to be seen in the Prussian department, by Siemens and Halske. In the nave, near the centre of the transepts, are statues of "Milton and his Daughters," "Samson," "Adam," "Venus and Cupid." On the Austrian and French galleries were displayed gorgeous collections of silks, satins, embroideries, and velvets; and on the British galleries, ranges of gold and silver plate, and caskets and cases of glittering gems. The service of plate made from Californian gold attracted much attention, as did the magnificent porphyry vase exhibited by the King of Sweden. There was a very rich display of French jewellery at the stall of Meurice. The beautiful bronze statue of the "Negro Girl," in front of the Sèvres rooms, was much admired; and also the bronze figures of the "Archer having discharged his Arrow," and the "Archer having transfixed the Eagle." A great treat can be enjoyed by those who visit the Crystal Palace, who, when fatigued by walking, will find seats at each end of the nave, and also at each angle of the transepts, from which the entire Palace, or at least a considerable portion of it, falls within their view; while the music of the giant organs cannot fail to sooth and tranquillise the feelings and the mind. When thus seated, after the weariness of the morning, the visitor can scarcely consent to allow himself to be disturbed.

The evening turned out very unfavourable, and it rained incessantly from about four o'clock. The difficulty of obtaining cabs or other conveyances exposed several parties to much inconvenience.

Numbers of well-dressed females might be seen running along the leading thoroughfares, with their shawls thrown over their bonnets, without even the miserable advantage of an umbrella. In truth it was no easy matter to accommodate 50,000 persons with riding conveyances, and the knowing and experienced Londoners contrived to monopolise all the vacant vehicles. Returning from the Exhibition, and having dined, I proceeded to the House of Commons, where I remained until one o'clock. The proceedings were very dry and uninteresting; the Navy Estimates were passed, and several private bills were advanced a stage. On Friday morning, having paid some private visits, I proceeded to Northumberland House, and viewed the Picture Galleries and costly furniture of this great mansion. Northumberland House is of considerable extent, and forms a quadrangle. From some of the windows of the principal apartments there is an excellent view of what, for a town residence, may be called an ample space of ornamental ground, which runs down to the river. The first apartment on the ground floor is a large dining-room, the walls of which are hung with magnificent paintings, some of them of large dimensions, by Rubens, Titian, Tintoretto, and other masters. The ante-room, by which you enter the dining-room, contains a good picture, "Christ led to Calvary," by Correggio, and a fine "Saint Sebastian," by Domenichino. The ball-room is a noble apartment. Here are to be seen splendid pictures, some of them copies, by the best masters, of full-length size, and finely executed in oil. The "Aurora," by Guido; the "School of Athens," by Raphael; the "Marriage of Cupid and Psyche;" and the "Presentation in Olympus."

In the centre of this room stands a splendid vase of Sèvres porcelain, presented by Charles the Tenth of France to the Duke of Northumberland, who represented England at the Court of France. The grand staircase is really a fine one; in the state rooms to which it leads are to be seen very beautiful and massive gilt chandeliers. The public were not permitted to enter the pleasure grounds. This fine house was visited by

large numbers, all persons of respectability. Her Majesty's state rooms at Windsor Castle, although larger, are not more elegantly furnished. Leaving Northumberland House I went to Hungerford Stairs, and thence, by the steamboat, to Woolwich; noticing as I went along the river the Chinese Junk, a most unwieldy looking vessel. I also took notice of the new Fish Market, which is being built near London Bridge, and very close to the Custom House. I was much struck with the "Duke of Sutherland," a magnificent Scotch steamer. Near Blackwall we passed one of the City barges, rowed by twenty men wearing the City livery; she had a splendidly gilt gallery, underneath which was an elegant cabin, richly upholstered and ornamented. Servants in scarlet liveries were in attendance along the gallery. Arriving at Woolwich, I was much surprised to see the large numbers who were engaged in iron work. I saw an immense hammer, which falls with a pressure equal to nineteen tons, and capable of being so regulated as to strike with a delicacy that would not break the shell of a nut. I witnessed the squaring of a large piece of crude iron, which was executed in a few minutes, although it must have been, at the least, one hundred weight. I was also much surprised at the accuracy and precision with which a number of persons wielded the sledge hammer: a large cutting chisel was applied to a piece of thick iron, which six men struck with the ordinary sledge, each falling in regular rotation without the slightest deviation or confusion.

I called again to see the "Royal Albert," which ship is now in a forward state, her third deck being laid and finished. She was laid down in 1842; I saw her in frame in 1846. There has been some departure from the original design as regards this great vessel; both her tonnage and number of guns will be increased by the change. She is 700 tons larger than any other ship in the British navy, and will carry 130 guns. Her armament will be the most powerful of any ship ever constructed; her length is 262 feet; between perpendiculars,

220 feet; extreme breadth, 60 feet, 10 inches; depth of hold, 25 feet; and her burthen 3462 tons.

I also noticed the "Agamemnon," a 90-gun ship, now being planked. A frigate, called the "San Fiorenza," is now in frame; she will carry 50 guns. I saw the fine steamer "Black Eagle," so called on account of her having carried the Emperor of Russia when he visited England; the "Lightning" is engaged as a tender to her.

Having partaken of refreshment at the "Albion Hotel," I returned to Westminster Bridge, and proceeded to the House of Commons. I sent in my card to the honourable member for Wexford, who kindly procured me a seat in the Speaker's gallery. In the course of the evening he came to that part of the gallery where I was seated, and with much kindness and attention pointed out some of the great guns of the House, including Lord John Russell, Sir James Graham, Sir Robert Harry Inglis, Mr. Hume, Mr. Bright, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Romilly, Mr. Colburn, Mr. Muntz, Mr. Adderley, and Colonel Sibthorp. On this occasion I saw the honourable member for the County Wexford, Hamilton Knox Grogan Morgan, Esq. I remained in the gallery until half past twelve o'clock. When I arrived at my lodgings I partook of supper with some gentlemen who were, like myself, strangers in London. After supper the conversation turned on the Crystal Palace, when one of the persons present made us acquainted with a circumstance of a very embarrassing nature that occurred to a friend of his, who had come up from the country to see the Exhibition. On the day before, which was that which I mentioned in my last account of the Crystal Palace, he was accompanied to the Exhibition by some female friends. The morning being fine, they left home early, and in order that he might have an opportunity of seeing the parks to advantage, the party resolved to walk. Everything went on very agreeably during the early part of the day, but in the evening, when the rain had set in, and the ladies wished to retire, the awkwardness and embarrassment of his position were

very great. A stranger to London usages, he was quite at a loss to know how to act; every vehicle that passed or could be seen being all occupied. However, there was no alternative but to walk home, with but two umbrellas to shelter five persons. It may be very well supposed that the ladies were rendered sufficiently uncomfortable, but he states that they bore it all with great patience.

When they had reached near home, a London nondescript, who might have been a stable boy or something worse, seeing the ladies in such a plight, with a quizzical air, which would go far to prove that he was an Irishman, said, "Oh! ladies, were you at the Great *Exhibition*?" laying a peculiar emphasis on the word "*Exhibition*." This was too much for sensitive young ladies to bear without being mortified; and one of them turned round to the others, and repeated the words that the wag had used. The poor countryman felt as if a dagger had been plunged into his heart, and from that moment he fancied that the friends, whose good opinion he very highly valued, looked coldly on him. The gentleman from whom I learned the above particulars remonstrated with the unfortunate wight on the weakness of his conduct, in allowing so trifling an affair to disturb his equanimity; and said that the friendship must be of a very fragile character, that could be lessened or destroyed by a shower of rain. He endeavoured to reconcile him by stating in addition, that it would be very well indeed, if no greater disaster should occur while the *Exhibition* remained open.

On this morning I proceeded by the railway to Richmond. Arriving at this celebrated place, I proceeded at once to the Hill, for the purpose of enjoying the magnificent prospect which this classical locality affords. The view from this hill is indeed splendid. I was greatly surprised and delighted with the richness and beauty of the scenery which meets the eye on every side. The Thames, flowing through the centre of the green and gorgeous foliage, and bearing on its bosom numbers of beautiful swans, gave a charm to the whole of mature and

surpassing loveliness, the recollection of which fills the mind with ideas as agreeable as they are sublime and indescribable.

I next proceeded to the Park, which is very extensive, and ornamented with the finest trees, and intersected with handsome walks and drives; affording ample scope for recreation both to equestrians and pedestrians. From points in this park may be seen several beautiful seats, some of them deriving a deep interest from the illustrious and distinguished characters who were formerly their occupants; as, for instance, Alexander Pope and Horace Walpole. Some of the highest of our nobility have seats in this vicinity, amongst whom may be mentioned, the Duke of Northumberland, the Duke of Buccleuch, and Lord John Russell.

Returning from the Park I called into the Star and Garter hotel, where I took a biscuit and some nice ale. From the windows of this fine establishment there is a magnificent view of the Thames, and of the surrounding country. The late King of the French spent many months previous to his decease at this hotel, and was preparing to return to it again when he was seized by the illness which caused his death. The domestics speak of him with great and unaffected regret. His was an eventful but far from being a happy life. In the dawn of early manhood he was obliged to fly from the country of his birth, to seek for shelter and protection in a distant land, where he was constrained to earn a subsistence by his talents and acquirements. Again, circumstances and his inherent love of power placed him in the high and enviable position of king of that country from which he had been alienated; but having violated the promises which he made on his assumption of regal power, an outraged, and indeed a fickle people, cast him off in his old age, to become again a wanderer from the country that he governed, and the people whom at first he so flattered and whom he afterwards deceived. The reflections arising from a consideration of his career are not such as are calculated to excite envy; they are, on the contrary, of such a nature as to induce those who are imbued with proper

dispositions, to bow in humble thankfulness to the ordinances of an all-wise and merciful Providence.

On my return from Richmond Hill I had the good fortune to fall in with a great treat, which was that of a regatta, got up under the patronage of the Duke of Northumberland at Isleworth, which adjoins the demesne of Sion House, and is about a mile from Richmond Bridge. This was indeed a very nice affair; the banks of this noble river, studded with lordly mansions, elegant villas, and neat cottages, present images of surpassing beauty; while the crowds of brilliant and fashionable people of both sexes, who were attracted by the amusements of the day, completed the happiness and delight of the spectator. Boats of every variety were to be seen in the neighbourhood of the amusement, including the river steamboats, sailboats, wherries, and scullers, some of them containing as many as eight rowers, while others were so small and slender, as scarcely to be capable of sustaining the individual by whom they were severally propelled.

Richmond Bridge is a handsome building, consisting of five arches. Looking through these arches from the river, a beautiful view of the Duke of Buccleuch's mansion presents itself. Returning by the steamboat from Richmond, I had a view of the following places, Sion House, Kew Palace, Lambeth Palace, and the new Houses of Parliament, which show finely from the river. I landed at Hungerford Stairs, and soon after called on "De Grave, Short and Fanner," beam and scale-makers to her Majesty's Exchequer, from whom I bespoke a new beam and stamps. I experienced some delay in reference to these articles, by reason of the workmen having made holiday in this week, which they employed in viewing the Crystal Palace. On Sunday morning I went to St. George's Church, in the expectation of hearing the Cardinal Archbishop preach, but was a second time doomed to disappointment. I heard an excellent sermon from a clergyman whose name I did not learn, and witnessed the solemnities of a high mass. On this day I dined with Mr. French, and had the pleasure of meeting a very agreeable party,

amongst others Miss O'Callaghan, a lady from Cork. On Monday morning I proceeded to Hungerford Stairs, and took the steamer for Kew. Arriving at Kew I noticed, in the first instance, a handsome church and churchyard, and the park called Kew Green; and also the house of his Royal Highness the late Duke of Cambridge, which is ornamented with the royal arms. Her Royal Highness the Duchess continues in occupation of it. The entrance-gate to Kew Palace and Gardens is of beautiful bronze, with ornamented piers, within which are to be seen innumerable trees, shrubs, and flowers. No. 1 Conservatory, formerly the Palm-house, contains a variety of rare and valued exotics. No. 2, a magnificent hall, heretofore the Orangery, is at present unoccupied, with the exception of some specimens of highly-prized wood. The new Palm-house is a magnificent conservatory, the sides and roof of which are of glass. It must have been considered a great curiosity previously to the erection of the Crystal Palace, which, in some respects, it resembles. In the front of this conservatory there is a fine pond, on which is moored a curious Indian canoe; several swans were gracefully floating on this sheet of water. A neat and spacious gallery surrounds the interior of the Palm-house, which, as well as the house itself, is filled with the rarest trees and plants of foreign parentage. Many specimens of a similar character were to be seen in the Turkish department of the Crystal Palace.

Kew Palace is composed of fine red brick; it is an old house and of a plain appearance; the entire of the grounds contains about 100 acres. Her Majesty seldom visits these gardens, perhaps not more than twice or thrice in the year. There are thirty persons constantly employed upon the grounds and in the gardens. The lawns are mown every fortnight, and sometimes oftener, and the greatest care is bestowed upon the walks. While moving through these lovely and extensive scenes, the idea of England's wealth and greatness very forcibly takes possession of the mind. Many days might be advantageously spent in viewing

this large and very beautiful place. The Museum is a flat brick building, and contains within it the rarest specimens of flowers, seeds, fossils, and other curiosities; it is also surrounded by a gallery, within which are deposited other varieties both numerous and valuable.

Conservatories and glass-houses are to be seen in every direction. Pipes are laid underneath the whole of these gardens, whereby the requisite degrees of heat which may be considered essential to the health and growth of the several rare and valuable specimens of foreign and native trees, plants, and flowers, are supplied. The smoke which is emitted from these several pipes is conveyed off the grounds by means of a large and tall chimney; a cistern and water-works are contained in compartments within this chimney.

On a neat and sloping elevation, on that part of the lawn which fronts the Palm-house, stands a fanciful small building called the "Temple." This was erected in a single night, by the direction of George the Fourth, when Prince Regent, for the purpose of surprising the King, his father. This part is now called "Temple Hill." From this elevation the grounds and gardens can be seen to great advantage; rich and luxuriant forest trees appear in the distance, while in every direction sweetly scented and beauteous flowers tastefully ornament the verdant parterres which are formed by the intersecting and commodious walks. I must here close my book, as a correct description would be an impossibility.

Having partaken of some refreshment at the Rose Inn, which is kept by Mrs. Harriet Others, I proceeded to the steamboat station, and took my place for the Cremorne Gardens. Kew Bridge is a fine modern stone structure of nine arches. I noticed a new railway bridge over the Thames, between Kew and Hammersmith. The Suspension Bridge at Hammersmith is a neat and beautiful structure, and is second only to the magnificent Suspension Bridge at Hungerford. Arriving at Putney, I noticed the handsome church at that place, and on the opposite

side of the river, Fulham church ; there is a neat tower attached to each of these churches.

On my arrival at Battersea Bridge I landed, and walked to the Cremorne Gardens, which are but a short distance from it. These Gardens are very nicely laid out with alcoves, or arbours, where parties can be select, and partake of refreshments free from the annoyance of crowd or pressure. One shilling is paid on entering, but there are several objects which, if the visitor is desirous to see, he will have to pay for in addition ; viz., the Bosjesmans or Bushmen, natives of South Africa ; the Incubator—an artificial mode of hatching and producing chickens ; for these, sixpence each is paid. The Bridge Esplanade and the Maze, and the Panorama of the Rise and Fall of Nineveh, may all be seen at one penny each. In a remote grotto, amid rocks, and in the rear of a waterfall, a Recluse may be found, who tells fortunes on the acrostic principle. I saw more than one person stealing cautiously to the cave of this seer, who, if he could do nothing else, would be sure to deliver the curious inquirer into the secrets of futurity of his or her superfluous cash. A boy, fantastically dressed, was in attendance, and acted as the usher to this temple of Fate ; a fee of sixpence was demanded in the first instance. However, independently of the sights just mentioned, there is plenty of occupation for the visitor in the walks, the statuary, and the vocal and instrumental entertainments. These consist of the original Ethiopians, Pell, Ledger, and the American De Brenner, with comic singing by W. L. Edmonds. One of the most interesting sights to be seen here at present is Franeoni's troop of equestrians. The performances are very grand ; the riding, both by the males and females, is really magnificent. There is also a Shooting Gallery, where those who wish may fire away money at the rate of one penny per shot. Temples of Light are raised on many parts of the ground ; indeed, it may be considered one entire blaze of light which issues from lamps of various hues. In the centre of a circular area, of about 150 feet in diameter, which is enclosed by a

handsome railing, stands a splendid circular gallery, upon which a band of some thirty performers continues to play excellent pieces of music. Occasionally waltzes are played, while numerous parties of dancers, perhaps a hundred or more, may be seen waltzing at one and the same time.

Supper can be had for one shilling and sixpence ; tea, with shrimps, for one shilling ; a single cup of tea or coffee for sixpence ; and wines, brandy, and other liquors, at the usual London prices. The entertainments conclude at twelve o'clock, with a magnificent display of fireworks.

The Bosjesmans, or South Africans, already mentioned, are among the lowest class of the human family ; they are low in stature, and strongly built ; their language is a compound of guttural and clicking sounds. They appear to be endowed with a degree of strength and energy beyond what might be expected from their stunted growth. They afforded, under the direction of the person who has the charge of them, specimens of their mode of life, including hunting, dancing, and other peculiarities. One thing struck me as being remarkable in their conduct ; some of the audience threw coppers on the stage or platform on which they were exhibited, and the poor creatures showed as great a wish to grasp the money as if they were bred up in a state of civilisation ; and when they succeeded in catching it, they seemed enraptured, and pressed it to their lips and to their hearts. Some philosophers seem to doubt that they are, properly speaking, human creatures, and would fain class them as connecting links between man and the monkey tribe ; but I, at least, dissent from such a doctrine, and recognise them as true brothers of our common humanity, by their characteristic homage of the world's Mammon. They seemed not a little flattered by the notice which some of the ladies present bestowed upon them ; indeed, one of them had good reason to be proud, for one of Albion's fair daughters condescended to kiss him. This afforded much amusement to the persons who witnessed it. It is difficult to understand whether mere levity, or a

disposition to gladden the heart of the poor savage, dictated this action; if the latter, it was an effort of moral courage of no ordinary character.

This place is very well worthy of the stranger's attention, and can be enjoyed at a moderate expense. Steamboats were in attendance at the close of the Gardens: I was conveyed to Blackfriars-bridge, which was within ten minutes' walk of my lodgings, for threepence.

On Tuesday morning I went forth accompanied by Mr. French and his brother, and in the first instance paid another visit to the National Gallery; after which we took the steamer and proceeded to Greenwich, viewing the Painted Hall, the Chapel, the dormitories, and the kitchen. Here I saw 730 lb. of fine mutton in one boiler, with 56 lb. of pearl barley for thickening, 24 lb. of cabbage, cut fine, 12 lb. of onions, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of pepper, and 10 lb. of salt. This mess was for one half the inmates: they have beef and mutton alternately. The evening repast for the same number was 7 lb. of tea, 27 lb. of sugar, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of milk; the morning repast for the like number is 37 lb. of chocolate, 41 lb. of sugar, and $16\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of milk. On a former occasion, and in the early pages of my Journal, I have endeavoured to give a description of this munificent institution. My present visit confirms every impression made on my mind by what I saw in my former inspection. The Painted Hall I had not seen until this my last visit: I shall only say in reference to it, that it is every way worthy of the fine palace of which it forms so distinguishing an ornament.

Returning from Greenwich, we entered St. James's Park, and proceeded to Buckingham Palace, and thence to the Exhibition, which I now entered for the last time. The number present on this occasion was very great; the largest which, up to this time, had ever congregated within it, and exceeding 70,500 persons. In fact it was inconveniently full, and yet there was no confusion; every person seemed to be actuated by a disposition rather to suffer inconvenience himself, than to incommode his neighbour;

universal politeness being carried out to a perfect demonstration. Again I indulged in my predilection for the magnificent statuary which, in this great place, may be said to have reached perfection. Amongst others, the "Archangel Michael, holding Satan in chains," and "Satan whispering into the ear of our poor mother Eve, while sleeping," are sublime conceptions, and admirably executed. The "Venus de' Medici," and the "Apollo Belvidere," are really beautiful figures. The "Veiled Female" figure is surpassingly fine, and attracted much attention. There are some splendid specimens of equestrian figures; amongst others, her Majesty and Prince Albert. Near the centre of the transept, fine portraits of the Queen and Prince Albert may be seen. A model of Liverpool docks, on a large scale, excites universal admiration. This is a fine and true development. I also noticed the limestone model of Plymouth breakwater, which was very attractive. Rosenau Castle, the birthplace of Prince Albert, is also developed on a large scale; the grounds, as well as the house, are shown. I spent some time on this occasion in searching for the model of "Johnstown Castle," and considered myself well repaid for my trouble in doing so. It forms a very nice feature, and was superior to many, and equal to most of the best things of the same kind that I have seen. I saw beautiful specimens of every variety of carriage in the United Kingdom—France, Belgium, and the United States departments, and vast varieties of boots and shoes from Paris, Berlin, and the United States. On the north-eastern gallery were to be seen immense quantities of stained glass—this was designated the Stained Glass of all Nations. Several large and elaborately wrought fountains attracted the attention of the visitor; one of them is of the richest cut glass. These fountains throw up water from several jets to an immense height, which in its fall has a very pretty effect, and produces on the beholder agreeable sensations. Drinking-vessels are kept for the use of the visitors, many of whom were to be seen filling them from the jets and reservoirs. In the Canadian department are to be seen specimens

of various woods, and amongst them I observed immense oars. If their men were as large in proportion as are these articles, they would indeed be giants. A great variety of stones and minerals may also be seen in this department. In the compartments which are appropriated to Russia, Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, large assortments of curried and japanned leathers excite attention. In the Turkish department fine specimens of palm-trees, carpets, ottomans, and rich and costly horse caparisons are open to the view of the visitor. In India, palanquins, parasols, silks, and shawls are in abundance; but France, Austria, and Belgium appear to me, from the limited means I had of judging, to be the most interesting that can be seen in the whole range. Passing through the nave, I took a last look at the great Koh-i-noor. This splendid diamond is valued at 2,000,000*l.* sterling, and weighs 280 carats. It was found in the mines of Golconda, and presented by the viceroy of Douan to the Great Mogul. After passing through a variety of hands, the "Mountain of Light," not long since, became the property of her present Majesty. The Queen of Spain's jewels again caught my attention, as did the rare collection of Mr. T. Home, which is of great value, the largest pearl in the world forming a part of it. I also looked into the Austrian department, viewing, for the last time, the magnificent furniture, and the rich and beautiful church ornament called the "Monstrance," in which the blessed Sacrament is deposited during the benediction; the "glory" is one blaze of diamonds, and other precious stones. Nor did I forget the Swiss watches, and the monster clocks and organs; and though last, not least, in my appreciation, the elegant Italian statuary in the departments of Tuscany and Rome, and especially the rare Milan specimens that are to be seen in the Austrian department. These, together with the bronze statues of the "Negro Girl," the "Archer," having discharged his arrow, and the other "Archer," who with his arrow transfixes the eagle, the weapon having entered the breast of that bird, are objects which will long be remembered by those who were so fortunate as to

have seen them. I find myself becoming tedious, and feel the same inclination to dwell on these rare and interesting objects in description, as I felt while viewing them in reality. A person paying but two or three visits to this immense place cannot pretend to give even an idea of the vast and various objects which display themselves. It would require some months' constant residence in London to be able to do so. Her Majesty has adopted the true mode of acquiring a practical knowledge of this wonderful place; she goes almost every morning, and confines herself to a single department on each visit; and by this means, taking it in detail, she will ultimately succeed in making herself acquainted with many things, which, if seen in the ordinary and confused manner in which they are generally viewed, would fail to make a permanent impression on her mind.

Having returned from the Exhibition, I took a hasty dinner, and without much delay I set out for Vauxhall Gardens, which I reached at about half-past eight o'clock. Vauxhall Bridge has nine cast iron arches, of 78 feet span, and 29 feet high, supported by piers constructed of wood and faced with stone. Its length is 800 feet; it rises slightly in the centre; and cost about 150,000*l*. A toll is charged on this bridge of one shilling for a two-horse carriage, sixpence for a one-horse gig, twopence for a horse, and one penny each for foot-passengers.

On the left, as you pass this bridge, a large brick building of an octagon form can be seen; it is used as a penitentiary for convicts, and stands in an enclosed space which contains about 16 acres of ground. In this vicinity you have also a view of the church of St. John the Evangelist, a richly ornamented building, with a tower at each of its four angles. On the opposite, or Surrey side of the river, is seen the tower of St. Mary's, Lambeth, built of stone; adjoining which is the Old Gate, or entrance to the palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury, a portion of which must have been built several centuries ago; but additions have been made of a more recent date. This palace is said to be enriched with a splendid library.

Vauxhall Gardens are well known to all those who have been in the habit of visiting London. To those who have not seen them I would strenuously recommend an early visit, which cannot fail to repay the trouble and expense. Indeed, sights of this character should not be overlooked by those who pay even a short visit to the metropolis. Dramatic talent may sometimes be met with in the country, but Richmond, Kew, Vauxhall, and Cremorne, can be seen only in London. I will not attempt a description of these Gardens, with their multifarious and parti-coloured lamps. The music, the singing, the riding in the circus, and, above all, the fireworks, call up feelings of wonder and delight in the minds of those who, for the first time, are so fortunate as to pay a visit to this justly celebrated place. The visitors were more select than those who attended the Cremorne Gardens. This may be accounted for by the difference in the terms of admission, which was but a shilling at Cremorne, and is half-a-crown at Vauxhall. There was a large number of foreigners, both ladies and gentlemen, present on this occasion. At the conclusion of the entertainments, I took a cab with three other persons, and was carried to St. Paul's, a distance of four miles, for the small sum of sixpence, where I arrived at half-past twelve o'clock.

On Wednesday morning I took an early breakfast, being determined, before I should leave London, to take another view of the several beautiful bridges, which so often excited my notice and admiration as I passed, from time to time, along the river. I first proceeded to Westminster Bridge, where I took my place on board the steamboat, from which, as I sailed down the river, I had an excellent view of these fine structures. Westminster Bridge is built of Portland stone: it consists of fifteen arches, the centre being 76 feet in width; six of the arches on each side are 52 feet in width; and one at each end 20 feet. The extent of the bridge is 1223 feet. It was surmounted with a balustrade, which has lately been removed, in order to lighten the pressure on the bridge; and ornamented

with piers. The cost of building this very beautiful structure is said to have been nearly 400,000*l.*: it is toll free. It is now considered in an unsound state.

Next, the recently-erected Suspension or Hungerford Bridge presents itself. This is a magnificent effort of scientific and mechanical skill, and has a light and elegant appearance: its length is pretty nearly the same as the Westminster Bridge. The Suspension Bridge is approached from the Strand by the Hungerford Market. This market consists of a centre with a tier of shops for the convenience of dealers in meat, fish, and other articles: it is flanked by wings which are converted into taverns.

The Waterloo Bridge presents a fine appearance, with its nine elliptical arches of 120 feet span each, with ornamental piers of 20 feet wide; it is built of granite, the balustrade being of a peculiarly fine material. It measures within the abutments 1242 feet; while, to render the bridge level with the Strand, there are 400 feet of massive brick arches; and on the Lambeth side the arches extend a length of 1250 feet; thus making the bridge and its approaches nearly 2900 feet in length. This noble structure was finished in 1817 by public subscription: a toll is taken here. Passing beneath this bridge, Somerset House appears to great advantage, showing a front of 880 feet, supported on a range of arches; it is 500 feet in depth. The interior presents a spacious quadrangle with decorated wings: many of the public offices are kept within this building. From this part of the river the cathedral of St. Paul's appears a prominent and interesting object, with its beautiful turrets, magnificent dome, and golden cross. The extensive line of brick buildings forming the Temple—so called from the circumstance of the Knights Templars having formerly resided there—can also be seen to fine advantage: they are now the chambers and dwellings of the gentlemen of the legal profession. In the rear of these buildings, and extending to the river, there are gardens and pleasure grounds open to the public.

Blackfriars may be called the plainest of the London bridges. It consists of nine arches, the centre being 100 feet in length, the others gradually decreasing on either side; each pier is enriched with two Ionic columns, which sustain recesses. A balustrade decorates the top: the whole length is 995 feet. It was finished in 1768, and cost nearly 153,000*l*. At present it shows evidence of weakness; one or two of the arches on the Surrey side of the centre were supported by framings of large timber, while the sinking of the floor above was but too perceptible. The dome of St. Paul's assumes an enormous height and magnitude when viewed from this bridge; while the increasing number of spires which surmount the neighbouring buildings considerably enriches the scene.

Southwark Bridge consists of three stupendous arches of cast iron, the centre of 240 feet span, the others 210 feet each, resting on solid masonry. The weight of iron employed is 5310 tons; it was finished in 1819; its whole length is 708 feet, and cost 800,000*l*. This was considered, when built, a triumph of art, and the centre, the largest span of arch then in the world; toll is taken here, the same as at Vauxhall Bridge. After passing Southwark Bridge, London Bridge appears, and is strikingly beautiful. It is composed of five elliptical arches, the centre being 150 feet span, the next on each side 140 feet, and the others 130 feet, with piers exceeding 30 feet in width. The length is 690 feet, the Thames becoming gradually narrower until it passes this point. Objects of great variety present themselves from this quarter. Hulls of ships can be seen below, and forests of masts above the arches of the bridge, while the colours of all nations floating from the masts of the several ships give a rich and cheering aspect to the scene.

On the left stands the Monument, from the summit of which, through the grating that surrounds it, spectators may often be seen enjoying the extensive prospect it affords. Numbers of steamboats are constantly taking their departure for Greenwich, Woolwich, Gravesend, and Margate, and the greatest bustle

and excitement prevail. For many of the dates and figures mentioned in reference to these splendid bridges, as well as to some of the public buildings in the metropolis and its environs, I have to acknowledge having availed myself of the accurate descriptions which are to be found in that valuable vehicle of public instruction, "Chambers's Edinburgh Journal." A reference to the numbers that have been published within the last fifteen or sixteen years, will amply repay those who may wish to take advantage of this medium of popular knowledge.

I next proceeded to the House of Commons, and found that the members held a mid-day sitting. On this occasion I had the honour of an interview with Mr. Morgan, who was then in the library of the house. He received me very kindly, and gave me his order to the gallery for the next evening. On leaving the house I met the honourable member for the town of Wexford, and Robert Wigram Hughes, Esq. Mr. Devereux, with his usual kindness, offered to take me into the Speaker's gallery, which I respectfully declined, as I had made up my mind to visit the "Great Globe," in Leicester Square.

Arriving at Leicester Square, I paid my visit to the Great Globe, which is a wonderful thing, but which cannot be fully appreciated in a single visit. There are five galleries within it, from which the several divisions of the earth can be viewed. A gentleman attends, and with a wand points out the divisions in each zone or gallery, but the continued clatter of the feet of the visitors in passing up and down the stairs frequently renders him inaudible. It would require a couple of comparatively quiet days to be enabled to see and to enjoy it to full advantage. The continents, islands, mountains, seas, rivers, and lakes, seem to be correctly laid down and strikingly developed. Every description of globe and map can be procured and purchased at this place.

On leaving Leicester Square I passed through Long Acre and Lincoln's-Inn-Fields to Holborn. I stopped at the "Castle" tavern and called for some ale, with a view of seeing the

proprietor, Mr. Tom Spring. He was at home, but in very bad health, having recently undergone the operation of "tapping," when several quarts of water were taken from him. I therefore declined an introduction to him, fearing that anything in reference to his former profession might cause him pain. It is supposed that he is not wealthy, having within the last few years lost money on racing. He is now no more. While I have been engaged in copying my notes, the news of his death arrived. He was one of the most respectable as well as the most distinguished of the class to which he belonged; for, although an humble, he was a brave and an honourable man. Passing onwards towards Smithfield, I fell in with a person who had been for many years employed in the capacity of a town traveller: he stated that business was then very bad in London, that the depression was very generally attributed to the Exhibition, and that numbers of persons in trade were deploring its erection. Certainly the theatres and places of public amusement have been injured by it. The public are admitted as early as ten o'clock in the morning, and what with the desire to obtain the greatest amount of value for the money paid, as well as by the attraction of the several articles that are exhibited, they are induced, in many instances, to remain until the close of the Exhibition, by which time they become so languid and fatigued by the continued walking, that they require rest rather than amusement, and consequently the theatres must suffer.

On this evening I went to the Polytechnic Institution, and witnessed several very interesting and instructive lectures, as for instance, the adaptation of the double screw-propeller to steam-vessels; the rotatory motion of the earth, which was very ably illustrated. A lecture on the diamond was also given, a subject which was rendered very popular, most of the persons present being desirous of hearing it elucidated, in consequence of their having seen the great Koh-i-noor and the other rare collections in the Crystal Palace. The lecturer exhibited 5000*l.* worth of diamonds which were lent to him by one of the

eminent jewellers, in order to enable him to treat this subject to full advantage. The effect of the electric light upon these diamonds was peculiarly grand and interesting. He dissolved a portion of an unpolished diamond, for the purpose of proving that the whole of the diamond family is, when analysed, simply charcoal. The lecture closed with a series of dissolving views; a visit to this place repays very well indeed. On leaving the Polytechnic, I bade farewell to my friend, Mr. French, by whom I was accompanied to that institution, and proceeded to my lodgings, and sat with my excellent host and hostess until it was time to retire.

CHAPTER XVI.

LIVERPOOL.

ON Thursday morning I had breakfast at six o'clock, and started immediately after for Euston Square, and took my seat for Liverpool. The crowd and pressure at the railway station were very great, as there were so many country persons returning home from the Exhibition. We travelled by the Trent Valley line, and passed by Tamworth, when I had a view of the castle, the seat of the great Sir Robert Peel. I felt a melancholy interest while looking on a place that was the home of that illustrious and much lamented statesman. Alas! at what a moment was he snatched from us, when a large portion of the empire was suffering from the scourge of distress and famine, and before the great free trade measures which he was instrumental in carrying, had been fairly tested. Had it pleased an all-wise Providence to have spared him, his consummate wisdom and European weight might have tended to mitigate much of the misery which the empire, and especially Ireland, has

been doomed to suffer. But he is gone, and it is vain to murmur.

There is a fine church at Tamworth, with a large massive tower, ornamented on each angle by turrets or pinnacles. The crops along this line looked vigorous and healthy. As we approached Liverpool I noticed Knowlesley Park, the extensive and grand seat of the Earl of Derby. I arrived in Liverpool about eight o'clock, and took a cab to Seacombe-street, Everton, where I took up my quarters while I remained in that town. After breakfast next morning, I set out to take a view of Liverpool, and thought it very quiet, when contrasted with London. The first public object that took my attention was St. George's Hall, a new, extensive, and beautiful building. I called at the house of the Reverend Mr. Sheridan, St. Paul's Square, for the purpose of paying my respects to the Very Rev. Doctor Cahill, to whom I had the honour of being introduced in Wexford. He had not then returned from Manchester, but was expected the next day, as he was under an engagement to preach on Sunday in Great Howard-street Chapel. I felt very anxious to see him, not having had that pleasure since the publication of his celebrated letters. The name of this distinguished ecclesiastic has become very familiar to the public in consequence of the bold and determined attitude he has assumed in opposition to the measure brought before parliament by the government, and which, unfortunately for the peace of the empire, has been passed not only in the shape in which it was introduced by the minister, but even with alterations and additions of a more vexatious character. This act of the government and the legislature has rendered it imperative on him, and every Roman Catholic of influence and position, whether lay or clerical, in England and in this country, to declare his hostility and opposition to a government which, in the nineteenth century, would thus seek to shackle and restrict religious freedom. During the long course of agitation which was carried on in Ireland, since the passing of Catholic emancipation, the name of Doctor Cahill

was, comparatively speaking, unknown as a politician; and while many of his contemporaries, clergymen and laymen, were distinguishing themselves by the part they took in connection with that movement, he stood aloof. Indeed, as regards him, the character of the politician was sunk in that of the Christian philosopher. He sedulously devoted himself to elegant and useful literature, and his lectures, which have delighted and improved an admiring public, prove how he progressed as a scholar, and also afford unmistakeable evidence that, whether viewed as a religionist or a politician, he was one of the most tolerant of men. Those who know him best, know full well that there is not a subject in Great Britain more loyal to his sovereign, or more amenable to the laws. Having travelled much, and having occasionally spent a considerable portion of his time in England, he has none of the antagonistic prejudices which are to be found only in narrow and vulgar minds; and although he loves his country, and her people—perhaps the more dearly because they have suffered so much—still he can and does love the people of England with such an affection as a clergyman and a gentleman ought to feel for a people from whom he has experienced kindness and hospitality. As a statesman and a philosopher he must, as a matter of course, admire the constitution of England, and revere the spirit of her laws. Such is Dr. Cahill—as gentle and as amiable in his manners as he is powerful in stature and vigorous in intellect; alike humanised by the refinement of his education, as he is spiritualised by the sacredness of his profession.

It was surely in an evil hour that Lord John Russell penned his untoward letter to the Bishop of Durham, which was but too successful in evoking a spirit of fierce bigotry in the sister country; and which aroused every loyal Roman Catholic in England and Ireland to stand up in an attitude of hostility and opposition to the minister who so wantonly insulted them. Dr. Cahill has, no doubt, spoken strongly; but he is the true and faithful exponent of the feelings of the Roman Catholics of

both countries. Let it, however, be always understood, that it is the government, and not the people of England, that is the object of his animadversions, and of those who feel as he does; they know full well that the English people were grossly deceived. Never did an occurrence take place more to be regretted than the course adopted by the government in reference to the jurisdiction of the Roman Catholic bishops. But for the unfortunate agitation produced by that ill-timed interference, the interchange of good feeling that took place during the period of the Exhibition's being open, would have resulted in establishing such a friendship between the people of England and Ireland, as should eventuate in paramount benefits and advantages. I had not the pleasure of seeing the very reverend gentleman during my stay in Liverpool; an engagement prevented me from attending the sermon which he preached on Sunday, and I understood that he was to proceed to Manchester on the following day.

Having viewed the Exchange, I called into the Reading Room, where I met Francis P. Colley, Esq., a merchant of Liverpool, and a relative of Mr. Little's, who very kindly offered to enter my name on the book of the News Room, whereby I would have been privileged to visit it, and read the papers for a month or better; but as my stay in Liverpool was to be so short, I declined availing myself of his kind offer. I then took an omnibus, and ran along the whole line of docks, noticing the Brunswick Dock, which is used exclusively for the landing of timber and cotton. I also noticed Coburg Dock, King's Dock, Queen's Dock, Duke's Dock, Salt-house Dock, Albert Dock, Canning Dock, George's Dock, Prince's Dock, Waterloo Dock, Trafalgar Dock, and Clarence Dock, where the Irish steamers lie; on the other side is the Stanley Dock. A large space of ground opposite to the Coburg, King's and Queen's Docks, is about being converted into a new dock. The persons in occupation have received notice that the ground will be required by a certain day for that purpose. I next walked through the

new docks in the north end, viz.: Collingwood Dock, Nelson Dock, Bramleymore Dock, Wellington Dock, and Sandon Dock. I also took a view of the Sandon Graving Docks, six in number. The hand of improvement is quite visible in the size and construction of these great artificial basins; they afford ample accommodation, and are surrounded by high and substantial walls, and by neat and commodious flagged ways for the convenience of passengers. I saw the "Great Britain" undergoing repairs in one of the Sandon Graving Docks; there were 150 workmen employed upon her, and the number was about to be increased to 500. Large quantities of the old iron materials were lying about the dock, sufficient, I would suppose, to load a vessel of 500 tons; all these will have to be replaced. The expense of her repairs is estimated at 60,000*l*. On my return from seeing the "Great Britain," I called into the Bramleymore Dock, and paid a visit to Captain Clarke, who commands the splendid new ship "J. K. L.," belonging to the Messrs. Howlett of Ross; she had just arrived from New Orleans with a cargo of cotton. She is a magnificent vessel, and has a full-length figure of the great Dr. Doyle on her stem, in his episcopal robes, with crosier and mitre. The cabin of this fine ship may be called a commodious drawing-room; a splendid clock stands in the centre of the afterpart of it. Having partaken of lunch with the Captain, and having received an invitation to visit his lady, who had just arrived from Ireland to meet him, and with whose family I had long been on terms of intimacy, I took my leave, deeply impressed with the good sense and respectability of this excellent young man. I found Mrs. Clarke in fine health and spirits; and I esteem the circumstance very favourable that afforded me an opportunity of meeting this very deserving and interesting couple.

A very distinguished writer has said that those "whom the gods love die young." This aphorism has been verified in the case of this excellent and interesting lady, who was the perfect personification of the young, the beautiful, and the good.

Within a few months from the time I paid this visit, to the deep and lasting regret of all who had the pleasure and the happiness of knowing her, she died at sea, while accompanying her husband on his outward voyage to India. This passing tribute of respect is sorrowfully paid to her memory, by one who was fully cognisant of her many amiable and endearing qualities, and of her high and inestimable virtues.

The whole of these docks are, generally speaking, filled with ships of all nations; their vast extent, as well as the great number and size of the warehouses and stores, are calculated to excite the utmost astonishment. Along the whole line of docks numbers of carts and drays are continually driving; you do not see, even in London, an equal number of these vehicles. This may be accounted for by the circumstance that in London there is not a continuous and unbroken line of quays or docks; there they are divided into separate wharfs, and consequently the whole extent of the traffic does not at one and the same time come under public observation. At the back of the Stanley Dock there is a viaduct of about a mile in length, consisting of several arches, composed of fine brick, over which the East Lancashire Railway runs, stretching into Yorkshire.

The London and North-Western Railway station-house is a neat and light-looking building. The roof that covers the carriages is composed of zinc and glass.

Lord-street is rather a fine street, and, by one who had not so lately been in London, might be considered an object to be looked upon with some admiration; but the ideas that take possession of the mind on witnessing the uniform streets and gorgeous houses of that emporium of wealth and refinement, leave but little room for secondary and qualified impressions. "Frisby and Dyke's General Warehouse," and Livingston's establishment, called the "Dresden Rooms," in Lord-street, together with the Liver House, Hapsburg House, and the Compton Chambers, are good houses, and may be considered second-rate, as compared with London shops. The contrast

between the people of these two places is equally striking: in London you meet at every turn, and in every street, splendidly-dressed men, and elegant and fashionable women, all apparently bent on pleasure; while in Liverpool, the plodding appearance of those of either sex, at once conveys the idea that they are entirely bent on business.

After dinner, it was my intention to visit the theatre for the purpose of seeing Mr. Phelps and Mrs. Warner; but a thunder-storm, which lasted for an hour, accompanied with heavy rain, prevented me from indulging my wish.

On Sunday morning I went to the Jesuits' Chapel, Salisbury-street, where after mass I heard a good sermon. This is a large and handsome building, and is situated near the Collegiate School, where the children of the first families in Liverpool are educated. The Collegiate School is a fine and extensive building. There is a neat Protestant church adjoining it, and a very fine chapel belonging to some body of dissenters in the same vicinity. After dinner I walked down to the landing-stage, which is a most convenient and admirably-conceived temporary structure. Here large numbers of well-dressed people, both men and women, were every moment availing themselves of the convenience of the ferry steamboats, and were crossing to Birkenhead, Tranmere, Egremont, and New Brighton. Having taken my place in one of these boats, I was landed at Birkenhead in a few minutes. After viewing the new docks, and others that are now being built, and which are of considerable extent, I walked to Woodside, and entered Birkenhead Park. This park is entered by a gateway, beneath an arch, not unlike that on which the Wellington equestrian statue stands, at the corner of Hyde Park, opposite to Apsley House. The grounds are extensive and well laid out, on a plan prepared by Paxton, the celebrated designer of the Crystal Palace. An artificial river, somewhat in the style of the Serpentine in Hyde Park, flows through the grounds, over which at several points rustic bridges are thrown. There is also a curious suspension bridge crossing

the widest and deepest part of the river, which goes by the name of the "Aerial Bridge." Persons are allowed to pass over it on payment of one penny each; but as the passenger approaches the centre of the bridge, it sinks nearly to the water's edge, thereby causing much apprehension and alarm to such as are not acquainted with this peculiarity. There are likewise a few good statues in the park, as, for instance, Wallace, the Hero of Scotland, and Mazeppa on the Wild Horse. The horse is represented as having fallen from exhaustion, in accordance with the story as detailed by Lord Byron. This is a very fine and rising locality; several new and tasteful houses, with two churches, and a Roman Catholic chapel, are to be seen here. Hamilton Square, which has been built in the style of some of the finest squares in London, is very beautiful; and although not so large as some of them, is in every way worthy of that city of palaces; it is by far the finest thing of the kind to be seen in the vicinity of Liverpool. The day being beautifully fine, enabled me to enjoy the pleasure which this interesting neighbourhood affords, and also gave me an opportunity of seeing the population of Liverpool to the best advantage. It consists, in a larger proportion than most other towns of its extent, of the important and valuable middle classes. Before I left my lodgings on the following morning, I was waited on by a respectable young man, Mr. William Roche, son of Mr. Patrick Roche, a native of Wexford, who has for many years been carrying on business as a master tradesman in Liverpool. He stated that he was deputed by a number of friends, all of them Irishmen, and most of them from the towns of Wexford and Enniscorthy, to invite me to a dinner on that evening, which was got up as a compliment to myself. He apologised for the shortness of the notice, by stating that as I was to leave on the following day, by the Wexford steamer, his friends were obliged to dispense with that ceremony which, under other circumstances, might be deemed necessary. I need scarcely say that I did not hesitate to accept this flattering mark of attention from persons who had

known me for a long time, some of them personally, and all of them by character. It was my intention to go to Chester on this day and to pay a visit to Eaton Hall, the seat of the Marquis of Westminster, but my engagement with my Wexford friends precluded the possibility of my indulging this wish. I therefore employed myself in paying some visits to private friends, and in taking a view of the suburban parts of the town, and also in running by the steamboat to Tranmere Ferry, from which I walked to Rock Ferry, a distance of a mile. These are very pretty places, and neat houses and cottages are to be seen stretching along for miles, with rich gardens and meadows occasionally intervening; everything in the neighbourhood of the extensive range that runs from Rock Ferry to New Brighton wears the appearance of comfort and refinement. A hulk is moored off Rock Ferry, which serves as an hospital or quarantine ship. Returning from this place, I noticed in the Mersey a fine New York steamer, called the "Baltic," and also a splendid American ship called the "Jenny Lind." At the appointed hour I went to the hotel where the dinner was provided, and soon after was ushered into the dining-room, and was placed on the right of the gentleman, late a merchant of Enniscorthy, who on this remarkable, and to me interesting occasion, presided. After the usual preliminary toasts, my health was given by the chairman, in terms which were calculated to make me feel much pride and gratification. Perhaps I may be accused of egotism by mentioning this incident, but I would prefer subjecting myself to that charge, rather than, by a total silence, deprive myself of thus manifesting my gratitude to these kind friends whose hospitality and attention I shall always feel it my duty to acknowledge. I am quite aware that it is to the kindness of my friends, rather than to any merit of my own, that I am indebted for this demonstration of their partiality. Still, I must confess that I am so far imbued with the weakness which belongs to our common humanity, as sometimes to refer to it with a laudable pride. Time, under such circumstances, seemed

to pass very rapidly, and the hour of twelve, which was the time for our departure, appeared to many of those present to have arrived too soon. I then bade farewell to my kind and warm-hearted countrymen.

On the next morning I called on Mr. Roche, Castle-street, and gave him a letter to the lady with whom I lodged in London, as he, his brother, and another friend, were about to proceed to visit the Crystal Palace. I then went down to the landing stage and crossed over to Seacombe, which is immediately opposite. There is a nice hotel at this place, with neat and ornamental gardens, which are open to those who use the hotel; fireworks are occasionally displayed in the evenings from these gardens. A member of the proprietor's family was married on the Friday previous; this event was celebrated by marked rejoicings, and the booming of cannon could be heard from this place throughout a great part of the evening. I next proceeded to Egremont, which is a delightful locality; there are several beautiful seats in this neighbourhood, and fine accommodation for bathers; the strand is covered with a coat of fine white sand, and strewed with bathing-boxes. Leaving Egremont, I went to New Brighton, which is a very popular bathing-place, and is much used by respectable parties for that essential and healthful purpose. Here there is a very good hotel, and several new and well-built houses were advertised to be let, either in whole or in part, for the bathing season. When the tide is low a very extensive and fine sandy beach displays itself; then looking in a north-eastwardly direction from the sand-hills which rise beside the hotel, the beach forms a crescent, on the centre of which stands the "Rock Lighthouse," and in the rear of the Lighthouse, the Battery, which, for its size, is very strong. It is built on a table of flat iron-rock. This battery mounts eighteen guns; sixteen of them are 32-pounders, and two of them 18-pounders; the latter are so placed as to cover and defend the entrance or bridge.

On the right and left of the battery the strand, extending to

a considerable distance, affords ample scope to the bathers. Persons residing in Liverpool can avail themselves of the advantage that this healthful place affords, as the steamboats are plying every fifteen minutes, and the fare is only a few pence. Ponies and donkeys are kept ready saddled and bridled for the use and amusement of juveniles to ride along the strand. From this place can be seen the extreme extent of the new northern docks, while, still north of these docks, the shore presenting a gentle curve, is studded with handsome villas and neat cottages. At half-past two o'clock I returned from New Brighton, when I proceeded to my quarters, and, having dined, prepared for my departure by the "Town of Wexford" steamer. I candidly confess I felt heartily glad that the time for my return had arrived. It would require something more than mere pleasure to induce me to leave the quietude of home, at least for some time. Indeed, after all I have seen during my short absence, the conviction is very strongly impressed on my mind, that there are few places where quiet happiness can be more perfectly enjoyed than in our own dear and tranquil Wexford. We left Liverpool about half-past six o'clock; the evening was bright and clear, and it was an interesting sight to see the great number of ships and steamers which left by this tide. The "Duchess of Kent," and the "Eblana," Dublin steamers came out after us, but were very soon in the advance, while we overtook and soon passed a small Dublin steamer, which was carrying passengers in opposition to the Dublin Company. The "William Penn," Waterford steamer, left about the same time with us, and appeared to proceed with equal speed. Two large American passenger ships left by this tide, and were towed by steamers to the "Bell Buoy;" several sailing vessels of a minor class left also by this tide. I remained on deck until it became dark, and as I looked upon the fading shore of the country from which I was then returning, and which, perhaps, I may be destined to see no more, my mind dwelt in deep meditation on all that I had seen in London, and in the other parts of England through

which I passed ; and as I thought of the length of time during which she has held potency and sway, almost unequalled in the history of the world, I could not refuse to acknowledge her claim to my admiration and respect. I asked myself too, to what can be attributed her unexampled prosperity and our comparative wretchedness ? but I am free to confess I am not capable of solving this problem. That it is partly owing to the morbid jealousy of England, there can be no doubt ; an instance in proof of this may be found in the annihilation of our woollen trade by an act of British legislation.

A disposition to monopolise on the part of England, added to our own unfortunate divisions, sectarian and otherwise, are doubtless amongst the causes of our prostrate state. England's indomitable energy and perseverance can be traced throughout her whole history, even from her invasion by Julius Cæsar. We are early called on to admire the virtues and the bravery of her monarchs ; her Alfreds, her Edwards, her Henries, and her lion-hearted Richard ; and a host of others, who on the fields of Cressy, of Poitiers, and of Agincourt, and on many other and not less glorious plains, taught her foes to respect and dread her energy and valour. But even her ancient feats of arms, glorious as they have been, are all eclipsed in the deeds which many of us remember, the proud and startling events which terminated on the bloody but victorious field of Waterloo. Yes, Waterloo has been as signally decisive on the land, as the Nile and Trafalgar have been on the sea ; and though many amongst us have to lament the loss of friends that have fallen in the fierce struggles which ended on that ensanguined field, our consolation is, that they have not fallen in vain, as they have left an heritage of peace to their friends and successors. To Irishmen, too, it is given to exult and rejoice in these glorious achievements, for many of our countrymen, as well as the famed and immortal Wellington, have won a hero's laurel, while others less distinguished, though equally brave, have filled a hero's grave.

In the arts of peace England stands even higher than in those of war ; for statesmen, philosophers, historians, and poets, she has been long renowned ; while in the mechanical arts, and in the application of modern science to these several arts, she has outrivalled all the world, and is at this moment enjoying a rich reward in a prosperous and universal trade.

It is my sincere wish that the time may soon arrive when our people, imitating her energetic example, will earnestly determine on a decided line of action, which will superinduce habits of persevering industry. And though we cannot expect to rival her in wealth and greatness, we may reasonably hope to arrive at a comparative state of prosperity and independence. These blessings at least our country can afford us.

Amid the gloom by which we are surrounded, a gleam of hope is now beginning to display itself ; this may be found in the universal feeling which pervades the country in reference to the establishment of native manufactures. This source of employment is rendered the more necessary as our agricultural interests are so greatly depressed by the free-trade measures which are now in such full and active operation.

The impolicy of a country like ours, with a population of seven or eight millions, relying upon one branch of national industry, is now sufficiently, if not startlingly, obvious.

It blew freshly during the night, and as the wind was from the north-west it so far operated against us, as to prevent us from meeting the tide, and thereby rendered it impossible that we could cross the bar until the next morning. We anchored in the south bay of Wexford, at half-past seven o'clock, when a boat coming alongside, several of the passengers, myself included, availed themselves of the advantage, and proceeded by her to Wexford, which we reached at half-past eleven o'clock, after an absence, on my part, of three weeks.

CHAPTER XVII.



CASTLEBORO' AND WILTON.

HAVING taken some pains to make myself acquainted with scenes of natural and artificial beauty, both in England and this country, it occurred to me that, before committing my journal to the inspection even of my friends, it would naturally be expected that I should not overlook the prominent and acknowledged beauties that present themselves in my native county. Influenced by these considerations, early in the month of August in the present year, accompanied by my friend, Mr. Macdonnell, I paid a visit to Castleboro', the magnificent seat of that excellent nobleman, Lord Carew. We travelled by the Bagnalstown coach to the nearest point, on the line, which approximates to the object of our visit, and found it to be about seventeen miles distant from Wexford. The day was beautifully fine, perfectly clear, and accompanied by a pleasant and bracing breeze. The country wore a rich and delightful aspect; the corn, in many instances, being already cut, while numbers of males and females were employed in harvest work. Some portions of the corn crops appeared backward, but, with such auspicious weather, they gave certain promise of attaining maturity. The corn that has been already reaped consists chiefly of winter oats of the kind called "Tawney." There were also some fields of wheat, and still fewer of barley, falling beneath the sickle. The potato-fields, in many instances, between Wexford and Killurin, afford unmistakable symptoms, both in smell and appearance, of the presence of the mysterious avenger, which, for several seasons, has injured or destroyed

this valuable and essential vegetable. The ride, along the banks of the Slaney, until you pass Carrigmenane, affords an agreeable treat; looking eastward, from the point opposite to the old castle, and a few perches on the Wexford side of Carrig Bridge, the river presents a lake-like appearance, and, when the tide is at its height, displays an extensive sheet of a clear and unruffled surface to the eye of the beholder.

Another magnificent view, and, according to my judgment, the finest that can be obtained of this splendid river, may be had from the point about a furlong beyond the entrance to Ardcanrisk House. Looking southward from this point, the river, extending to Ferry Carrig, presents the appearance of a beautiful lake, its apparently extreme boundary being the rock on which stands the ancient Castle. Looking northward from the same point, an equally rich and interesting prospect presents itself, which extends to the Metal Bridge at Cornwall, where, in the distance, the curving river, sweeping beneath the ancient castle of the Deeps, becomes lost to the view, and thereby also gives to the intermediate sheet of water the appearance of a large lake, of a serene and pellucid character. I know of few greater treats which can be enjoyed by the lover of tranquil nature, than that which may be found in sailing up this clear and gentle stream. Like those who inhabit the counties of Wicklow, Carlow, and Wexford—the districts through which it flows—its character is gentle, peaceful, and passive; still, with all its placidity, a rare convulsion may occasionally disturb it. Many of the present generation can but too well remember the time when those who dwelt upon its peaceful borders were hurried into madness by fierce political strife; when they departed from their peaceable and quiescent character, and, for the moment, consequences which the patriot and the philanthropist alike deplore, were the result. One of the most brilliant and gifted of Irishmen spoke in terms of the highest praise of the pleasure which he experienced on a summer's evening, while sailing on the Slaney. The celebrated and lamented Richard

Lalor Sheil, who was a member of the Leinster Bar, during the summer assizes of 1824, accepted an invitation from his friend Mr. Harvey, of Kyle, to dine with him at his seat on the banks of this river. On his return, at an advanced hour of the evening, his boat overtook another of the same class, which had on board a party that had spent the day in the delightful enjoyment which the scenery of the Slaney affords. Amongst the company who occupied this barque, was a young lady, a member of a respectable and talented family: she was gifted with a fine voice, and, for the gratification of her friends, was induced to sing some of the sweet airs that are to be found in Moore's "Melodies." Shouts of applause marked the close of each successive effort, and those who were on board the barrister's boat were not backward in signifying their appreciation of the taste of the fair songstress; but she little thought, at the time, that the far-famed Sheil made one of her audience.

Soon after, an article from the burning pen of this distinguished genius made its appearance, wherein he depicted the varied beauties of the Slaney; nor did he forget the sweet warbler of the lines of his friend and countryman, Tom Moore. Alas! he is now no more. He is lost for ever to the country that he loved, and which now, more than ever, requires the assistance of him and such as he. He made his appearance before the public, at a period when the names and the powers of the most gifted and distinguished orators that Ireland ever saw, were still familiar to his countrymen—Flood, Grattan, Curran, Plunket, Bushe, and his illustrious friend and compatriot, O'Connell. Ere the dawn of early manhood had graced his cheek, he stood forth as the champion of his country's rights, when those who were averse to the extension of civil and religious freedom became surprised and alarmed at the fierce denunciations of the boy orator. Then a tyro in the great school of oratory, he had immense difficulties to encounter in following, so closely, the track of such a galaxy as the above

names composed ; but it was his glory that he soon became not only the equal of some of them, but even surpassed them all. There are very beautiful seats along the banks of this river. Cullentra Cottage, the seat of George Little, Esq., from which the meanderings of the Slaney, with the rich mountain scenery in the distance, can be seen to great advantage, is a very pretty residence. Killowen Cottage, the residence of Paul Walker, Esq., which lies embosomed in a sequestered dell, may be seen peering beneath and between the most luxuriant foliage, and presenting precisely such a picture as would make a desirable subject for the pen of the most distinguished pastoral writer of the day. In the calm and early summer's morning, the wreathing smoke overhanging the cottage and the vale, calls up ideas of rural simplicity and comfort of the most pleasing and agreeable nature. Ardcanrisk House presents a very fine feature, and can be seen from a considerable distance ; while, from the lawn, the Slaney can be traced for many miles. This placid stream, and the mountain scenery in the back ground, form a picturesque and very beautiful view.

Tykillen House, the seat of Charles Arthur Walker, Esq., is finely situated on the eastern bank of the river ; the neat and extensive lawn slopes gradually down to its margin. Large sums have been expended in improving the mansion. New and commodious offices extend north of the house, and are approached from the front beneath a large and ornamental arch. The east front has a very rich aspect ; the entrance is in this front. A semicircular projection displays itself in the centre of the south front, and forms a picture of solidity and beauty. The west front faces the river, and has a light and elegant appearance ; a very handsome parapet surrounds the house on all sides, and adds a grace and dignity to its admirable proportions. This fine seat can be seen to the best possible advantage from Polehore, the neat and unique residence of Herbert Francis Hore, Esq. Polehore appears to equal advantage when viewed from Tykillen House. The new and

handsome lodge which has been recently built by its spirited owner, Mr. Hore, stands on a rich and verdant mount, which rises precipitously above the river on the western bank. Neat and characteristic offices have been erected, and a convenient avenue and handsome lawn judiciously laid out; these improvements manifest decided evidence of judgment and taste. From the lawn in front of the lodge an ample prospect lies open to the view, embracing within it the river and the richly-planted grounds that skirt its banks, including Ballyharron Cottage, and Belmont, the seat of the Countess of Donoughmore. When at Polehore, the visitor must be struck by the steep ravine which lies between the lawn and the river. Trees of great age, enwreathed with ivy from the roots to the topmost branches, form a striking contrast to the young plantations which ornament the lawn immediately in front of the house. On a part of the lands of Polehore, but distant from the residence of Mr. Hore, an extensive tile-yard has been established by W. C. Rickman, Esq., who resides in a neat cottage adjacent thereto. Here bricks, tiles, draining-pipes, and potter's ware of a very superior description are manufactured. This branch of home manufacture is successfully and spiritedly carried on; in these important works twenty, and occasionally thirty persons are employed; the advantages resulting from enterprises of this nature are too obvious to require any comment. Healthfield, the delightful seat of Edward Beatty, Esq., presents attractions of no common order to the lovers of the picturesque and beautiful; it immediately adjoins the lands of Carrigmenane, and was originally a part of that estate.

Newtown Cottage, the residence of John Edward Redmond, Esq., is finely situated; the grounds and the garden, which are uncommonly beautiful and nicely kept, are open to the public at all times, and are much frequented by respectable parties from the town of Wexford. From the cottage and its vicinity, Carrigmenane and Healthfield are seen to much advantage; thus viewed, they appear to form a part of the grounds which

appertain to the cottage itself, the river which divides them being totally lost sight of.

Kyle, the seat of the veteran patriot William Harvey, Esq., whose arm and whose tongue were ever ready to be employed when the interests of his country required them, is a very handsome place. The grounds are extensive and well wooded, producing some of the best timber that is to be seen on the banks of the Slaney. On a part of these grounds there is a very nice retreat, called the "Grotto," through which close and sequestered walks of a winding character extend, and afford to the contemplative student, or the Christian philosopher, that repose which can be enjoyed only in a virtuous retirement, far from the confusion and jarring strife which are to be encountered in contact with the world. A small neat cottage was many years ago raised in this place; here the neighbouring gentry were wont to congregate, and to participate in the elegant hospitality which was so liberally dispensed by Mr. Harvey and his accomplished lady. Grief for the loss of a favourite son, whose death was the result of a melancholy and fatal accident, superinduced a disease of the eyes, which, having taken a virulent turn, deprived his friends, and society at large, of the presence and the services of this high-spirited and liberty-loving gentleman. His name seldom comes before the public at present; however, it occasionally appears in connection with those acts of liberality and Christian charity which have ever distinguished it.

On this side also, and adjoining the lands of Kyle, may be seen Moat Park, the property of Nicholas Goodall, Esq.; and Lonsdale, the handsome residence of Percy L. Harvey, Esq.

On the opposite or western side of the river, Brookhill House, the new and beautiful residence of the Rev. T. Bell, displays itself, and shows to great advantage. Its proximity to the rich and extensive demesne of Bellevue considerably enhances its otherwise enviable claims to the notice of the tourist.

Bellevue, the delightful residence of Anthony Cliffe, Esq., is finely situated on a gentle elevation above the river, from which

it is divided by a rich and sloping lawn. The pleasure grounds are as extensive as they are beautiful. A magnificent drive, two miles in length, sweeps along the margin of the Slaney, and extends from the north entrance of the demesne to Penzance. The mansion is a splendid house of modern construction, which displays its front to the river, and presents a peculiarly elegant appearance. The entrance is beneath a portico supported by eight light and handsome columns of the Ionic order, and is approached by a capacious flight of fine granite steps, which extends the entire length of the centre of the mansion. A neat wing stands on each side of the portico, and gives a finish and a beauty to the rich façade. Although low in appearance, it is very extensive, and affords ample accommodation to the large establishment which is supported by its munificent owner. The view from the front of the house is really beautiful, comprehending Macmine on the north, and Killurin, Carrigmenane, and Healthfield on the south; while on the east or opposite side of the river, the rich lawns and woods of Kyle, Lonsdale, and Newtown appear to great advantage.

Macmine Castle, the seat of Pierce Newton King, Esq., is a rich and handsome place: an island is formed in the river in front of this demesne. Still farther on, the demesnes of Merton and Kilgibbon present themselves, and display a rich and luxuriant appearance.

We arrived at Castleboro' at half-past ten o'clock, and proceeded to view the magnificent structure which has been built on the site of the former house that was destroyed by fire some years previously. At the entrance of the demesne, the visitor becomes at once struck with the beautiful porter's lodge, which stands immediately in front. It is based on a platform of rich granite, and is approached by a capacious flight of several steps of the same material. This area or platform has been formed in the centre of a terrace or steep sloping bank, which extends to a considerable distance on each side of the lodge, and presents a fresh and tasteful appearance. It is composed of

the same description of granite so generally used in every part of the grand building to which it is the precursor. The roof projects deeply over the side walls, and in the front forms a handsome portico, supported in the centre by two neat columns of the Doric order, and on each side by a pilaster of the same order. This unique and beautiful appendage to the main edifice prepares the mind of the tourist for the rich treat that he may expect soon to enjoy. From the lawn on the south of the Boro' river, from which it slopes gradually upwards, and forms a gentle acclivity, this splendid mansion can be seen to the best possible advantage. In front of the building on this side there are several beautiful terraces, consisting of seven horizontal planes, to which you descend by capacious flights of steps, formed of white granite. One of them is of a circular form, and presents a very fine appearance. By these flights you descend from the mansion to the river, which has been artificially widened in front of the house, so as to assume the appearance of a handsome lake, whereon swans and other aquatic fowl are to be seen in considerable numbers. Cascades appear on the east and west of that part of the river that runs in front of the house. Stone bridges have been erected beyond each of these cascades, by which you cross from the mansion to the lawn on the opposite side. The grand centre of the building presents the appearance of a Venetian palace, about ninety feet in length, and the south-front exhibits a façade of elegant and elaborate workmanship. A projection of a semi-hexagon figure occupies about one-third of this front, while the mansion extends on each side to a similar distance. A highly-ornamented entablature runs along the entire building above the second story, and is supported in the centre by four Corinthian columns with very rich capitals, and by two pilasters of the same order on the right and left extremities. A very rich and highly-ornamented cut stone string-course runs above the first story, with rosettes and scroll. There are seven windows in each story. The grand centre is flanked by beautifully

ornamented wings, connected by corridors of two stories in height, which contain three windows in each story, the corridors being 42 feet in length. Each of the wings shows a front of 55 feet in extent, and is two stories in height, with four elegant columns of the Ionic order, and four pilasters of the same order, two on each extremity, with five windows in each story. The end of the east wing is of the same extent as the front, with the same number of columns, pilasters, and windows. The end of the west wing is somewhat less in breadth, and differently finished. There is a handsome door in this end, with a fine cut stone causeway spanning the area which runs beneath.

This wing was part of the old family mansion, and very luckily escaped the ravages of the fire. The north front displays a lofty and magnificent portico, supported by six columns of the Corinthian order, with capitals of the same character and appearance as those which ornament the south centre. It corresponds in height with the entablature, which, on this side also, runs above the second story; it is 36 feet in length, and projects about 21 feet. Underneath this portico is the hall-door, or grand entrance, on each side of which there are three windows, and seven windows in each of the two upper stories. The centre house and wings project about 17 feet beyond the corridors; there is a door in each corridor, with a handsome column of the Ionic order on each side of it, and a window on the outside of each column; there are three windows in the upper story of each corridor. Each wing shows an appearance entirely different from that which it presents on the south front. On this side, the wings are ornamented with handsome columns of the Ionic order, and with pilasters of the same order on each extremity, and also with niches both oblong and circular, but no windows. The interior of the eastern wing is intended for a library; it is 55 feet in length, 30 feet in breadth, and 25 in height, and surrounded by a neat and light gallery. In the west wing there are several apartments, consisting of a drawing-room, his lordship's study and ante-room, with bed-rooms and closets. In the

main house, the drawing-room is 33 feet by 24, and may occasionally be converted into a ball-room ; this room is of circular form, corresponding with the semi-hexagon projection in front. The organ-room is 33 feet by 26 ; there is a fine organ, built by Telford, in this room. The dining parlour is 40 feet by 24, and the staircase-hall 28 feet by 24. I noticed a very beautiful chimney-piece, of white marble, which was saved from the ravages of the late fire ; a slight tinge, or partial discoloration, affords unmistakable evidence of the danger from which it escaped. I saw a very fine picture of his lordship's grandfather, who was a member of the Irish bar ; and also one of his friend, the Lord Chancellor of that day, both works of merit. We also saw a likeness of the present Peer, and of Lady Carew, and one of the Honourable Shapland Carew, in his uniform of the 10th Hussars. His lordship's likeness I do not consider a very successful effort, but her ladyship's I conceive to be true to the beautiful original.

The principal pictures were destroyed by the fire already mentioned. The demesne is of great extent, and very richly planted ; it contains 1000 acres undivided by a single fence ; all that wood and water can do to beautify and ornament, it possesses. The face of the country, too, is very favourable to landscape and pleasure grounds, the surface being of an undulating and varied character. Wherever the eye can reach it meets with rich and agreeable views ; but the whole is so extensive and so thickly wooded, that, with the exception of its lawns, its groves and river, nothing beyond them can be seen ; it is thus rendered perfect in itself, making Castleboro', as it were, all the world.

From the windows of the upper stories however, fine views of the neighbouring mountains of Blackstairs and Mount Leinster can be obtained. At a short distance on the south-east of the mansion, and on the opposite side of the river, stands the ruin of the ancient family castle, from which the present seat derives its name ; richly mantled with ivy, it forms a very interesting feature.

The parish church is on his lordship's demesne, and also a handsome school-house, built by his lordship, which can be seen from the upper windows. The pleasure, or flower-garden, which contains about a statute acre and a half, lies somewhat less than a furlong from the east side of the mansion, and is entered from the south; neat and fanciful flower-beds intervene between the entrance and the conservatory. The conservatory is handsome and lofty; the sides and roof are of glass. It contains some rare specimens of exotic plants and flowers, and amongst others a large and beautiful *Attura*, with a rich trumpet-like flower of a scarlet colour. The grapery extends west of the conservatory, while a peachery of similar extent runs east of it. North of the conservatory lies the melon garden, in which there is a handsome gardener's lodge. The stable-yard adjoins the last-named garden; the stables and coach-houses form three sides of a square. This range of buildings is entered from the north by a commodious arch, in the middle of a handsome front composed of a centre and wings finely ornamented, and in the Doric style of architecture. The space on each side of the arch is appropriated to the stables, while the east and west sides of the square are converted into coach-houses. The farm-yard and vegetable garden lie south of the fine old castle already mentioned, and about a quarter of a mile from the mansion; this garden contains two acres. The drives through the demesne and pleasure-grounds are extensive and interesting. This beautiful demesne derives advantages from the improvements made on the lands of Ballyhyland and Coolbawn, which, to a stranger, would appear to be adjuncts of itself.

Ballyhyland, the seat of John Howlin, Esq., presents a very improved and improving aspect. The plantations are vigorous and healthy, and the system of agriculture adopted is apparently of the most approved character. In this vicinity lead mines have been, for many years, worked with spirit and success. Woodbrook, the seat of Major Blacker, who is nephew to

Lord Carew, is in the neighbourhood of Castleboro', and adjacent to the Blackstairs Mountain.

Having satisfied ourselves at Castleboro', we walked through Lord Carew's demesne to Coolbawn, which belongs to Francis Bruen, Esq., and on which he expended large sums of money. The grounds are extensive and very beautiful. The house is nicely situated, with handsome terraces descending from the southern front to the rich lawns beneath. Its front is 100 feet in length, flat in the centre, with three windows in each of the two stories, which stand above the surface. The eastern end or wing of the building projects to the extent of about five feet beyond the centre, with ornamented windows that project still farther, and two plain windows on each side of the projecting ones. The western end or wing projects to a similar extent, with windows also farther projecting, but in other respects it does not preserve a perfect uniformity with the eastern end. A long range of offices, extending a considerable distance to the westward, gives to the whole building an irregular appearance. The north front shows a grand hall-door in the centre, with a square window above it, and three others in each of the over-ground stories, on each side of the centre. The whole building is composed of fine cut stone, and is elaborately ornamented with pinnacles and spires; indeed, it may be very justly said to be overloaded with ornaments. I have here to express my regret that I had not sufficient leisure to view the interior of the house, which I have reason to believe, from what I have since heard from friends on whose taste and judgment I have the fullest reliance, is every way worthy of attention and admiration, especially its magnificent hall. While here we had a fine view of the White Mountains, which are cultivated to their summits.

Returning from Coolbawn we were too late, by a few minutes, for the Wexford coach, or rather it passed before time, owing to its being so very lightly laden; there were but two passengers returning by it to Wexford, while in the morning it had not a single one when we alighted to proceed to Castleboro'. On this

morning also, we met the Waterford Mail Car coming to Wexford without even a solitary passenger; these facts afford evidence of the stagnation of business. On finding ourselves left by the coach nearly seventeen miles from home, beneath a strong sun, and with tight boots, we felt for a moment a little nonplused and uncomfortable. In this dilemma we made for the first decent-looking farm-house that presented itself to our view, and made a bargain with its proprietor to yoke one of his market cars for our accommodation, and, on his consenting to do so, we spread our viands, and with nice sweet milk for our drink, made a hearty dinner. We remained at the farm-house until it was nearly six o'clock, when the fierceness of the sun had in some measure abated; we then started for home on a car stuffed with straw and covered with a quilt, and reached Wexford at nine o'clock. I could not refrain from smiling when I beheld my stalwart friend, who stands six feet two inches in height, and is fifteen stone in weight, stretched on our "low-back car." He bore it, however, with perfect good humour, for, with the stature of a giant, he has the heart of a lamb: many a pleasant ramble have we had together, and many more I hope to enjoy with him. While possessing the unsophisticated friendship of my kind and true-hearted companion, I will endeavour to exist alike regardless of the frowns of beauty or the smiles of power; and when the hour of dissolution shall arrive, and my heart shall become as the clod of the valley, perhaps my memory may claim a sigh from one whom I loved while living, and whom, if it were possible, I would think of in death.

The river Boro', after passing through Lord Carew's splendid demesne, flows downwards to the bridge of Ballymackesy, and, in its rich meanderings, at about a distance of five miles from Castleboro', falls in with another lovely seat, through which it winds in a devious and peculiarly attractive form. There are few of our native rivers which, in their course, grace a more charming residence than that of Wilton, the seat of Harry

Alcock, Esq. This beautiful place is finely situated, and for its extent combines natural advantages that cannot be exceeded. It would be difficult to find, even in the most favoured localities, a more striking and beautiful view than may be obtained from the drawing-room windows of this fine mansion. The lofty hill of Bree rising in the form of an amphitheatre, and richly planted to its summit, affords shelter to this fine demesne from the south and east winds, while it gratifies the beholder by its sublimity and beauty, and supplies the sportsman with an ample treasure in the superabundance of its game. A beautiful valley lies between the foot of this hill and the mansion; its rich meadows are studded and ornamented with luxuriant trees of every variety, while the Boro', as it flows immediately below the house, assumes the appearance of a fine rapid river, the deep murmur of which has a soothing effect upon the ear. It is no uncommon thing to see a fashionable angler plying his line from the windows of the mansion, and capturing the bright unconscious inhabitant of the beautiful stream that flows beneath. This light and elegant building stands on the southern extremity of the rich lawn that lies before the grand entrance in the north front. The extensive area immediately in front of the mansion is defined by a handsome cut-stone boundary, within which fine gravelled ways lead to the respective entrances, while the extremities are formed into neat and closely-shaven grass-plots, that display a freshness in their appearance, and evince a refinement of taste on the part of their projector deserving of the highest commendation. The house, which was originally of a plain and ancient appearance, has undergone extensive alterations and improvements, and now presents not only a modern but even a really rich aspect. Some of these improvements were made in the lifetime of the late proprietor, and were confined chiefly to the east wing, which contains the apartments occupied by the domestics. The eastern extremity is flanked by a handsome tower of light and elegant proportions, harmonising with that part of the new building which connects it with the

main body of the house, where another handsome tower displays itself. The culinary department is detached from the house, and lies within subterranean chambers, which may be approached by under or overground passages, and are lighted from the terrace that skirts the south front. The present owner lost no time in carrying out the further improvements which were contemplated by his late father, and accordingly a new and beautiful tower graces the west wing of the building, while the entire north front displays a characteristic appearance. This magnificent tower is connected with, and constitutes a portion of, the state apartments. Like Castleboro' House, and Coolbawn House, a beautiful terrace runs on the south side of the mansion, immediately above the river, while handsome bridges span the river at several points, rendered necessary by its serpentine windings. A rich and closely-shaded walk extends, for about a furlong on the west of the house, to a neat flower-garden. The principal garden is situated on the other side of the road, opposite to the main entrance to the lawn. Beneath a large and spreading tree, that stands on the right of the mansion, and on the margin of the stream, a fine circular rustic seat is formed, where, protected from the summer's sun, the visitor may sit and enjoy the charming scene which the velvet lawn and flowing river present to his view.

These grounds are exceedingly favourable to the growth of timber; the trees upon them are some of the largest and most vigorous that I have seen. A fine ash tree was, a short time since, struck by lightning, when a man who sought protection from the storm beneath its branches was killed by the fluid; it stands on the lawn in front of the house; the track of the lightning is perfectly visible, the trunk being partially rent from the upper branches to the roots. North-west of the mansion, in the centre of a rich lawn, a handsome lake is formed, skirted by beautiful trees and shrubs. In the centre of the lake, clumps which, by the richness of their foliage, appear indigenous to the water, afford a covert and shelter to the aquatic fowl. This

delightful residence is situated about ten or eleven miles from Wexford, and three from Enniscorthy : the approach, from the road that runs west of the Slaney, between the last-mentioned towns, is through the centre of a richly-planted wood, at the entrance to which there is a handsome porter's lodge. The edges of this agreeable ride, which is over a mile in length, are fringed with evergreens and flowers that, in the summer season, give it a most delightful appearance. The proprietor of this magnificent place displays the greatest liberality ; not only are strangers permitted to walk over the grounds, and view the house and offices, but even their horses are cared for and fed at the nice stable-yard that lies in a hollow east of the mansion. On two occasions I have had the pleasure of viewing the interior of the house, and of enjoying the splendid view from the drawing-room windows of the south front. As a native of the county I rejoice that such places as Castleboro', Johnstown Castle, and Wilton, can be enumerated among the other numerous seats of our resident gentry. The Boro', after passing through the demesne of Wilton, in its progress towards the Slaney, flows through a rich and romantic valley, in the vicinity of which appears the fine residence of David Beatty, Esq., called Boro'dale.

In front of this residence it sweeps in an ample curve, and falls downwards to the extensive mills of Mr. Davis, at Kilcarberry. Here it divides itself, one arm of it affording the requisite assistance in turning these mills ; thence it glides into the Slaney, nearly opposite to the fragment of a ruin called Brown's Castle, which stands on the eastern bank of this river. The neat church of Clonmore and the handsome residence of the clergyman adjoin the demesne of Wilton. The new and lofty chapel of Bree is situated at a very short distance from it. This fine house of worship is 120 feet in length, including the porch and the sacristy, and 36 feet in breadth. The house of the parish priest, the Rev. Philip Devereux, immediately adjoins the chapel. In the old chapel of the parish schools have been

established under the National Board for the education of the children, both boys and girls, and are equally near to the chapel and the residence of the clergyman.

CHAPTER XVIII.

RECLAIMED LANDS IN WEXFORD HARBOUR.

ON Tuesday, the 5th of August, 1851, accompanied by my friend Mr. Macdonnell, civil engineer, I went to view and examine the Reclaimed Mud Lands, which owe their existence in their present state to the Wexford Harbour Improvement Company. To this body, and more particularly to John Edward Redmond, Esq., the thanks of the public are due, for the perseverance manifested by them in conquering apparently insuperable natural impediments, and the great difficulties which seasons of unprecedented distress superinduced. We first walked along the embankment which runs east and west from the Raven-point, to the strand of Ardavan, which at present appears to be substantial and secure. Lighters are constantly employed in conveying the gravel raised by the steam dredge-boat, used in deepening the Gul-bar channel, which they deposit in the deepest part of the harbour that fronts the embankment, so as to form a breastwork or security against the encroachments of the tidal waters.

There are 2500 acres within the embankment, 800 acres of which have been sown this year with wheat and oats, and a small quantity of barley and beans. About 650 of these acres may be said to have turned out very well. Some of the wheat is of first-rate quality, and the yield good: not a single ear showed any symptom of blight or damage. A small portion of it has been already reaped, and a good deal more ready for

the sickle. A considerable quantity of the oats, especially that which was sown in autumn, has also turned out well. A large breadth of it has been cut, and over a hundred labourers were employed in threshing and winnowing.

About 150 acres, which were sown in the spring, may be said to have failed; and it seems strange that this portion of the ground was considered of comparatively fine quality. It is supposed that when it shall have been exposed for some time to the weather, and shall have experienced a chemical change by the action of the air, its fertile properties will be called fully into operation.

Having walked over the large island, upon which the crops bore but an indifferent aspect, and were much inferior to those we noticed on the Slob lands, we paid a visit to Beg-erin island, on which stand an ancient churchyard and the ruins of a venerable church. The crops on that part late in the possession of the Cooper family looked very well. We saw Mr. Carroll, who lives in Cooper's Cottage on this island, and who is the steward of the reclaimed ground. He is an intelligent, communicative, and gentlemanly man, and, I have no doubt, an experienced and clever agriculturist. We then traversed a large quantity of the land which has not yet been broken, and some that has been turned up by the spade, and found that every part of it can be perambulated with perfect safety. This caused us some astonishment, when we recollected that but a few months since it was covered with water, and was the home of the fishes and the wild birds of the ocean. Although at present in a state of barrenness, it is not devoid of interest; perhaps we were the more partial to it on account of its virgin purity, and may have assimilated it to Venus rising from the deep. Allegorically speaking, it possesses all the freshness, if not the beauty, of the fascinating goddess; and when the implements which have been fashioned by her rugged husband—the spade and the plough—shall have entered its bosom, like her, too, it may become productive of rich and beautiful fruit. We were quite

unanimous in our sentiments regarding the degree of merit which is due to Mr. Redmond, to whose indomitable energy and perseverance it owes its present maturity and promising fertility.

Other advantages of a paramount character, and of the highest importance to the town of Wexford, have emanated from the enterprise and public spirit of this distinguished utilitarian. For instance, a free bridge over the river Slaney at present, and a new one in prospect. The act of parliament for the completion of these desirable objects received the royal assent on Friday, the 1st of August, and the bridge was opened to the public on Thursday, the 7th of the same month. In consequence of this bridge being rendered free, a large section of the northern part of the county, which was hitherto shut out by a heavy toll, is now enabled to bring its produce to our markets; while the removal of the old bridge when the new one shall have been completed, must have the effect of increasing the harbour accommodation, and of abating the nuisance occasioned by the causeways extending to such a distance on each side of the river; the effect produced by the causeways being to restrict the tidal water in its free ingress and egress. While speaking of Mr. Redmond, it must be remembered that when a very young man, he, with his own means, made a most extensive improvement in the south end of the town, where, at a vast expense, he reclaimed the entire space that lies between Paul Quay and the southern extremity of the dock-yard, the whole of which had been previously submerged. The portion thus added to the town by him, is now both an extensive and healthful locality, comprehending within it Trinity-street, New-street, and a part of William-street. Soon after the completion of these improvements, he caused some large steamers to be built, and erected a wharf for their accommodation upon his own ground; and about the same time he built a patent slip and dock-yard, where ship-building has ever since been carried on.

A splendid new ship, the largest and finest ever built in this

port, was launched from this dock-yard on Saturday evening, the 30th of August, 1851. For several days prior to her being launched, a number of persons called at the dock-yard to view her as she lay upon the stocks, many of whom were well qualified to judge of her character and appearance, and they were unanimous in their estimation of her exquisite proportions and admirable finish. Her length is 127 feet, between perpendiculars 118 feet, extreme breadth 29 feet, and depth of hold 19 feet; it is supposed that she will be capable of carrying a burthen of 800 tons. She is built of native oak, principally from the woods of the county of Waterford. It was half-past eight o'clock when the launch took place, as the tide did not suit before that hour. The crescent moon had sunk before the interesting moment arrived, and the prevailing darkness rendered lanterns necessary to enable the shipwrights to carry on the requisite preparations. Tar-barrels were lighted on the pier of the dock-yard, right and left of the ship, the glare of which, falling on the tranquil waters of the harbour—for the night was still and calm—gave to the entire scene a lurid appearance, and tinged the figures and features of the surrounding spectators with a bronze-like hue. The scene of operations at this time might be likened to that of a fortress preparing for the anticipated conflict of the coming day, or like to a large encampment of "Red Indians," about to make a night assault upon the territory of some hostile tribe. The booming of cannon was occasionally heard throughout the evening, the report of each discharge causing increased numbers of anxious spectators to arrive. The tide having at length reached the required elevation, and all preparations having been completed, the signal for the final result was given, and—after such a momentary hesitation as may sometimes be observed on the part of a young and ardent swimmer, ere he plunges into the clear blue water—the gallant vessel, with a light and easy motion, amid the shouts of admiring thousands, glided into that element, upon the bosom of which she soon sat with all the stateliness and dignity of the swan, the most graceful of all the

creatures that nature has instinctively taught to dip the wing in water.

As the evening began to close, many of those in attendance were heard to express their fears that, in the coming darkness, anything should by possibility occur to mar the hopes of the spirited proprietor, Robert Sparrow, Esq., or those of the able and scientific builder, Mr. Joshua Gaddern, or of the hardy and intrepid artisans who were acting under his directions. However, when the moment of trial arrived, all doubts and fears were at once removed, and the most sanguine hopes and wishes were crowned with complete success. The large assemblage, carrying with them the purest feelings of charity and joy for their neighbour's success, retired delighted and gratified to their respective homes. Such are thy blessings, industry!—oh may the happy day soon arrive when the music of the axe and the mall, and the other implements of mechanical skill, will more generally be heard to resound through all the towns of our common country; then will Ireland indeed become “great, glorious, and free.” Such are the services which Mr. Redmond was mainly instrumental in rendering, services which not only demand our acknowledgment, but also the expression of our warmest gratitude. He it was who projected the Wexford Harbour Company, whose extensive reclamations have already been alluded to. He was also mainly instrumental in organising the South-Eastern Railway Company, of which he is the chairman. It was under the direction of this company that the line of railway from Carlow to Bagnalstown, and thence to Kilkenny, was established. His energy and perseverance in carrying out these extensive public projects, while the country was sunk in apathy and despair, afford some idea of what might be achieved by such an individual under more favourable circumstances. When we call to mind the number of persons who found employment in the execution of these works, it will be readily admitted that he deserves to be looked upon in the light of a public benefactor. While I am making this note, he is

labouring under an indisposition, which, I sincerely hope, will prove to be but temporary. I am quite sure that many of his neighbours and countrymen will offer their earnest prayers for his speedy restoration to his wonted health and vigour. While dilating on the advantages of a free bridge, the name and character of Robert Hughes, Esq., very naturally force themselves on one's attention. In him also the town of Wexford has found a steady and consistent benefactor. Very many years ago, he embarked a large fortune in purchasing property, and in carrying out the most valuable improvements in the centre of the town, as well as on the land on which is situated his unique and beautiful residence, Ely House. Anne-street, with the Custom-house, the Union Club-house, the Butter-crane, the Shambles, the Presbyterian church, and several other private houses, owe their existence to his spirit and enterprise. He has long been the holder of by far the greatest number of shares in the present bridge, and for many years has had it in his own occupation; and when the question of opening the bridge to the public assumed a tangible and practical character, he met the parties who were considered as the representatives of the public, not only with fairness, but with the utmost liberality. I am in a position to speak with certainty on this subject, having been for many years transacting business for Mr. Hughes, from whom, on each succeeding day, I continue to receive renewed proofs of kindness and confidence. Delicacy prevents me from saying what, under other circumstances, I would feel it imperative on me to express, in reference to this excellent gentleman. However, his high character is as fully appreciated as it is generally known.

Ely House is a really handsome modern villa, the west front presenting a peculiarly light and elegant appearance; a fine hexagon projection graces the centre of this front, and rises one story above the connecting wings, which are two stories above the surface of the lawn. Ornamental additions, rising above the first story, extend north and south of the building;

that which lies on the north is converted into wine cellars and other offices, while that on the south forms a very handsome conservatory in which rich and rare plants and flowers, of foreign and native growth, are to be seen.

A picturesque lawn, surrounded with laurels, evergreens, and other ornamental plants, lies on the west front of the house; and on the north of this lawn, is the pleasure and flower garden, which is extensive and well laid out.

A steep semicircular terrace bounds the house on the east, north, and south, the shelving embankment of which presents a fine verdant aspect, and protects the mansion from the winds of winter. A neat and closely-planted hedge runs along the edge of the terrace in front, and in the rear there is a row of beautiful pines. An easy, though steep, flight of steps in the centre of the terrace leads to the fruit and vegetable garden.

The entrance to the house is in the east front, beneath a neat porch, and is approached by a capacious flight of cut stone steps; between which and the terrace there is an ample sweep for carriages, ornamented in the centre with a very beautiful lime tree, surrounded by a neat oval grass-plot.

The coach-house and stables lie north of the house, while on the south and east lie richly-planted grounds, the trees of which partially intercept the view of the house on this side.

The tasteful cottage recently built by Mr. Hughes, and at present occupied by Mathew E. Talbot, Esq., and the extensive concerns which adjoin it; together with the neatly kept house and large premises, that belong to Mr. Furlong of Ferrybank, give to the whole a pleasing and comfortable appearance. Lying, as it does, on the east bank of the Slaney, and immediately north of the harbour, it presents a very striking feature when viewed from the town, and appears to still greater advantage from the river, and from the Enniscorthy road.

CHAPTER XIX.

JOHNSTOWN CASTLE.

WHEN I paid my last visit to the Crystal Palace I had the great pleasure of seeing the excellent model of Johnstown Castle, which was situated in the Fine Arts sculpture department. Feelings of pride and gratification took possession of my mind, as I beheld, one after another, numbers of distinguished visitors, both English and foreign, stop to admire, and to bestow their praise upon, this perfect representation of native munificence and taste. Cards in German, French, and English, explanatory of the particulars in connection with the castle, were appended to that faithful image of this magnificent pile, and were read with avidity and apparent interest by many of those who, from time to time, entered the department.

I remained for a considerable time viewing this and other objects of a similar description, and can say, with perfect truth, that there was no single object of the kind in the whole department more worthy of notice and attention.

When I thought of the blessings which the noble-hearted proprietor has, for years, been conferring on the artisans and labourers who have been employed in carrying out his grand improvements, I looked upon the model then before me with feelings approaching to veneration.

Not having been at Johnstown for the last five years, and being struck with the extensive additions and improvements which a close inspection of the model rendered manifest, I determined on my arrival in Wexford, to avail myself of an early opportunity to visit this fine seat. In pursuance of this determination I paid my contemplated visit in the month of

July, and was astonished at the extent of the improvements which had been made, as well as with those which are at present in progress. I found that a splendid porch had been erected before the grand entrance, which is in the north front of the castle. The carriage-way immediately in front of this porch, is formed by beautiful Gothic arches, with neat light groinings, surmounted by a handsome tower that harmonises with the rest of the building. The door of the porch is in the Gothic style, finely ornamented above with oak carving; there is a niche on each side of it in which a lamp will be suspended, while underneath, statues or fancy figures may be placed. In the day-time this door folds backwards and discloses to the view another, which is composed of one entire sheet of the finest plate glass. The outer door, which is invisible when folded, is again made available at night, and affords the requisite security. On the northern side of the laboratory, and connected with it, a handsome building is now being erected, a portion of which shall be appropriated to a billiard-room. This is considered a desideratum, as, from its detached situation, the noise of the balls, when parties are at play, will not be heard within the castle.

This new building and the laboratory stand east of the castle, from which a communication with them takes place by means of a spacious gallery running over an elliptic Gothic arch, of considerable dimensions, that spans the intermediate distance, and which also affords a carriage-way to the east, or private entrance. Between this arch and the castle, another arch, of smaller dimensions but of a similar character, affords access to the domestics and ordinary visitors while passing from the porch to this entrance. This addition is composed of a fine bluish stone, which is quarried on a part of the demesne; the quoins and ornamental parts are of cut granite. It shows a very handsome front to the north, and is flanked on each extremity by a neat square tower, finished to correspond with that which stands above the porch. A light, lofty, and beautiful

octagon tower graces the western front at the point where the new addition is united to the laboratory, on the north side of the elliptic arch. In the main entrance to this building there are three doors, one leading to the laboratory, one to a conservatory, and a third to the new billiard-room, the approach to which is by spiral stairs of cut stone. The billiard-room is of ample proportions, and will be lighted by a dome.

The north front of the castle presents an appearance very different from the others. That part which appears above and at each side of the porch is new, and characteristically ornamented. On each side of this appear what may be called parts of the ancient castle, showing the grey colouring which time gives to edifices of this description; the windows are small, and the walls are partially covered with ivy. A handsome octagon tower, rising above the castle, stands on the north-west angle, and is surmounted by a flag-staff: there are fifteen windows in this front.

The east front is, perhaps, the least ornamental of any of the sides of this noble edifice; it has, however, a fine appearance. The south-east angle displays a magnificent round tower, at once characteristic of strength and beauty; while the laboratory, and the newly-erected building in connection with it, which will contain the billiard-room, interferes with its uniformity, and gives it an aspect of a different character, but still very grand. The private entrance to the castle is in this front. On this side there is a very beautiful terrace garden, filled, as a matter of course, with all that is calculated to gratify and delight the beholder, including a very beautiful *jet d'eau*; and on this side also, extending to offices remote from the castle, there is a subterranean passage, lighted from the surface of the lawn, and leading from the underneath apartments of the building.

The west front faces the high road, from which it appears to great advantage, the intermediate space presenting no obstruction to the view; travellers frequently stop to enjoy the pleasure

of beholding this rich and magnificent structure. The light and handsome octagon tower, on which stands the flag-staff, presents the same appearance from this side which it shows from the north, it being on the north-west angle. On the southern extremity of this front, a beautiful round tower, of similar character to that mentioned in the east front, displays itself; while in the centre of the front, a flat projection appears with three windows, one in each story, and above the upper window there is a splendid clock. There are two windows in each story in the space which lies between the central projection and the south-west tower, and three windows in each story in the space between the said projection and the north-west tower. In the centre of the rich lawn in front of this side of the castle, there is a fine basin, or large reservoir, in the midst of which a powerful *jet d'eau* throws the water to a great height, producing the usual agreeable and cooling sensations in its fall. Labourers were employed in levelling and forming terraces on this part of the lawn.

The south front is by far the most grand and imposing, combining within it solidity and strength, united with elegance and beauty. It is flanked on the east and west by the beautiful round towers already mentioned, in each of which there are four characteristic windows, while in the centre a semi-hexagon projection displays itself; in this there are three highly-wrought and richly ornamented windows, one in each story, composed of fine plate glass; indeed, all the windows of the castle are of this material. The intermediate space between the central or hexagonal projection and the western tower has also three windows, one in each story, while in the space between the centre and the eastern tower there are likewise three windows, one in each story, but there is a striking difference in the character and appearance of the latter. Two of these windows are much more highly ornamented than the corresponding windows on the opposite side, and even the rooms which are lighted by them project to a greater extent than do

those on that side; and, so far, the uniformity of the front is interfered with, but this I suppose became necessary in order to enlarge the rooms.

The laboratory displays its front to this side, while the connecting part, over which the gallery runs, shows the same appearance as it does from the north front, being that of a strong and lofty elliptic Gothic arch, together with the smaller one already mentioned. Thus I have vainly endeavoured to give a description of this magnificent building. I am fully conscious of my inadequacy to do anything like justice to an object which combines within it such variety in its architectural construction. I might, to be sure, have supplied my want of acquaintance with the rules of architecture by applying to professional friends for assistance, but as I have had to rely upon my own feeble resources in other instances, I made up my mind to trust to chance in this also. Besides, what would have been gained in one way might have been forfeited in the other, and while seeking for technicalities perhaps I should have lost my enthusiasm. In front of the castle, on the south side, is the beautiful lake, with its numerous aquatic birds. I saw as many as fourteen fine swans and cygnets floating upon its tranquil bosom. In this front also, between the castle and the lake, there is another fine *jet d'eau*. Islands have been formed near the centre and along the sides of the lake, and are closely covered with plantations. On these islands the swans breed and shelter their young, while small wooden houses are placed in various parts of the lake for the accommodation of the several specimens of the feathered tribe—many of them domesticated wild fowl—that feed and dwell upon this element. A handsome flight of fine cut stone leads from the beautiful and extensive space which surrounds the castle, to the commodious and nicely prepared walk that sweeps around the margin of the lake. Between this walk and the edge of the lake, a neat and closely-shaven bank slopes downwards, whereon occasionally may be seen the numerous birds basking in the mid-day sun, and enjoying that

pleasure to which all animals seem more or less partial. Abundance of fish, as well as fowl, inhabit and embellish this fine sheet of water.

On the opposite side, and on a gentle acclivity, which rises from the edge of the lake, stands an old castle richly mantled with ivy, and in a state of fine preservation; it is surrounded by a velvet lawn, ornamented with clusters of beautiful trees and flowering shrubs, that form the most pleasing and agreeable objects, and upon which the eye delights to dwell. New and handsome turrets have been built on each side, near the margin of the lake, and present a very fine appearance as viewed from the grounds in front of the castle. At the close of my visit, and when I was about to leave the grounds, I had the good fortune to meet the benevolent Mr. Morgan, the owner of this fine place, who, with his usual kindness, said I would at all times be welcome to view the pleasure-grounds and gardens, and, in addition, was pleased to say that I would be at liberty to view the internal decorations and furniture of the castle. Availing myself of this kind indulgence, I paid another visit to the castle early in the month of September. On this occasion, I entered the demesne by the north-western gate of the deer-park, near the foot of the Mountain of Forth, by which it may be said to be bounded on that point. There is a porter's lodge at this entrance; the person in charge of it is attentive and polite to the visitors who use this drive. We saw, as we rode through this part of the park, several herds of fine deer, which were followed by a number of beautiful fawns. Many acres of large furze and fern may be seen in this park, which afford shelter to the deer in winter, and to the fawns in summer. It also abounds in some fine timber. A river flows through the park, and also through the demesne, which is as necessary as it is grateful to the animals by which they are inhabited. From a handsome tower, which stands upon a richly-planted elevation in the centre of the deer-park, the whole of this extensive and very beautiful demesne falls within the view. Woods, rendered

hoary with time, the timber of which must be of great value, with rich and ornamental plantations, are to be seen in every direction; while, through the vistas, appear corn-fields and meadows, teeming with abundance, and of the greatest beauty. The whole demesne contains 936 statute acres, including the deer-park, which contains 222 acres. There are four entrances to the demesne, and a like number to the deer-park. The grand entrance is contiguous to the church of Rathspeck, which is on the Johnstown estate, and to which the family resort for divine worship. The church of Rathmacnee is also on Mr. Morgan's estate, and stands about a mile and a half from the castle.

The entrance-gate is very capacious, with a handsome Gothic porter's lodge on each side: these, together with the arch above the gateway, are entirely covered with luxuriant ivy. The visitor must be greatly struck with the rich and peculiar appearance of this entrance, which leads into a lawn of great extent and beauty. The castle is approached by a very fine new avenue, which is of great width and covered with nice white gravel. Trees of great age and magnitude, and of healthy and vigorous appearance, stand on each side of the avenue as it sweeps in an ample curve towards the castle. The private entrance is about a quarter of a mile from the grand one, and is used by the tradesmen and labourers who are employed at the castle and upon the grounds, or by such as have ordinary business to transact; a porter is in attendance at this gate, who, while he allows the horses and cars to enter, must be careful that no improper persons intrude themselves. Within this entrance, on the right hand, there is a neat conservatory, in which, some years ago, stood the celebrated American aloe. The entrance to the deer-park, which is immediately opposite, is also under the care of this porter. The back entrance is situated about a mile from the castle, and near to the chapel of Piercestown: cars and carriages occasionally enter by this avenue. The stables, the coach-houses, the dog-kennel, and

farm-yard, lie between this entrance and the castle. Here, also, there is a neat porter's lodge of a turreted character, finished in what may be called the appropriate Johnstown style of architecture. An elegant, unique, and commodious cottage has been built under the immediate direction of Mrs. Morgan, and by her appropriated to a school-house for the education of the children of the tenants and workmen, and those who may be considered as dependents on her bounty. Teachers who possess the necessary qualifications are provided to carry out her benevolent intentions, and I have reason to know that the greatest care and attention are bestowed on the pupils who attend the school. This school-house is situated immediately adjoining the handsome church of Rathspeck, which stands in the centre of the burial-ground, where, within a commodious vault, the ancestral relics of the house of Johnstown lie entombed.

On a slight elevation, on the west bank of the river that flows through the deer-park, the old churchyard of Kildavin appears, with its ancient and small chapel, a complete and ivy-clad ruin. At present this churchyard is not much used as a burial-ground; however, a few of the old neighbouring families continue still to use it, and find "that sleep that knows not breaking" beside the remains of their virtuous ancestors.

Passing out of the deer-park by the gamekeeper's lodge near the chapel of Murntown, we had to ride about half a mile before we arrived at the new entrance to the demesne. The porter's lodge at this entrance is a neat new building of a castellated character, corresponding in style and finish with the new buildings that are to be seen in the immediate vicinity of the castle. On the south of this lodge, you enter the demesne by a gateway beneath an elliptic Gothic arch, which corresponds with the style of the arch that connects the laboratory with the castle. On the other side of the road, and directly opposite to this entrance, a neat turret and similar archway form a handsome entrance to the deer-park. These buildings are composed of the fine bluish stone which is raised from the quarries on the

demesne, and, like the other buildings, the cornices and ornamental parts are of cut stone. The ordinary high road forms the boundary between the demesne and the deer-park, the former lying on the east and the latter on the west of this road. At a short distance from this entrance are situated the new gardens, which were laid out within the last seven years. These gardens are entered by a door that leads through the centre of the grand conservatory: this conservatory is of circular form, and of lofty proportions, composed entirely of glass.


Ranges of considerable length extend one on each side of the grand conservatory, and form graperies, which furnish abundant supplies of delicious fruit. Plants and beauteous flowers, both native and exotic, of the richest and rarest description, are to be seen in the conservatory and flower-garden. The walks are neat and commodious, branching off, at right angles, in front of the centre of the grand conservatory. This garden, which contains over two statute acres, is surrounded by a high brick wall, along the south-western front of which runs a handsome terrace, and also a fine sloping bank, the latter entirely under strawberry beds. Through the centre of this bank, and by an ample flight of fine cut stone steps, you ascend to the terrace, and thence to the fruit and vegetable garden; this garden is also surrounded by a high wall of handsome brick, and is of the same size as the flower-garden. A very neat lodge stands on the north-west side of this garden, and is occupied by the head gardener, who is a very intelligent person. He has eighteen men and six women under his immediate direction, who are exclusively employed upon the pleasure grounds and gardens. On the south of the fruit-garden lie the melon garden and pinery, which comprise nearly a statute acre, including within it a recently planted dwarf orchard; here greenhouses and hot-houses are got up and constructed on the newest and most approved principles; pines, melons, and other rich and delicate fruits are produced here, while specimens of highly

prized plants and flowers, both foreign and domestic, fill the greenhouses.

The mechanism, by which a full supply of air can, at all times, be admitted to the conservatories and greenhouses, is of admirable contrivance, and was executed by that very ingenious and clever mechanic, Mr. James Pierce.

Leaving the gardens, you approach the castle by rich walks, amid trees of a youthful and peculiarly vigorous description. These walks, like the gardens, have been recently planned and laid out, and the perfection they have attained, in so short a time, as well as their general freshness and beauty, is equally a matter of surprise to those who, like myself, had not seen them for the last five or six years. Approaching the castle in this direction, the south front strikes upon the view, and challenges the unqualified admiration of the visitor. When I reached the terrace upon which the castle stands, I took a seat upon the neat garden-chair, that is placed above the flight of cut stone by which the descent to the lake takes place. The day was calm and sultry, and the refreshing and cooling sensation, produced by my proximity to the lake, as well as to the beautiful *jet d'eau*, which was playing by my side, created feelings of the purest gratification, such as the rich scene of tranquil beauty then before me was so well calculated to engender. While seated thus, with the castle upon one hand and the lake upon the other, I thought of the beautiful lines which Bulwer puts into the mouth of "Claude Melnotte," when he describes to the lovely, confiding, but haughty "Pauline" his "princely palace by the Lake of Como." Having rested, for some time, in this delightful situation, I walked around the castle, where all was peaceful tranquillity, which was broken only by the pleasing hum of the tradesmen and labourers who were at work upon the new building and on the lawn.

I then proceeded to the castle, and was kindly received by the excellent Mr. Morgan, who, not forgetful of his previous invitation, did me the honour to accompany me through the



interior of the castle. The approach from the *porte cochère* to the entrance-hall is by a handsome corridor, with beautiful groined arches, which spring from bosses of the richest character and are equally beautiful in execution and design. The edges of the groinings are of oak, enriched, in some parts, with fine gilding. Curtains of Utrecht velvet of the finest crimson, deeply trimmed and fringed with gold, ornament the splendid Gothic windows on each side of this corridor. The floor of this approach is covered and ornamented with the newest and rarest material which can be applied to such a purpose. The entrance-hall has a fine appearance; the oak panelling and carving are of the most costly description; amongst other beautiful specimens of carving, both by the hand and by machinery, are the Apostles and the family coat of arms. Nothing can be more truthful and natural than the apostolic figures; the folds of the drapery will enable the most incompetent person to form a judgment of their merit. The skin of a magnificent Bengal tiger, the head finely developed, is spread out as a hearthrug before the fireplace in this hall.

The grand hall presents a massive and truly characteristic appearance; so much so, that if an intelligent person was brought thither in his sleep, he would, upon awaking, be at once convinced that he was within the hall of some grand castle or stately palace. It is lighted by a dome of ornamented stained glass, which subdues the fierce glare of the summer's sun, and throws a mellowed and pleasing light upon the surrounding objects. This hall is surrounded by two magnificent galleries, one on each story, formed of oak, and of the finest workmanship; they are at once strong and beautiful, and perfectly in keeping with the character of the Castle. The floor is of asphaltum, tessellated in black and white. Passing from this hall, you enter the staircase-hall, and become struck with the grandeur of the noble staircase, which was designed by Hopper, an English architect of no mean pretensions.

Having viewed the halls, we next entered the library, a very

grand and solemn-looking room, with magnificent carvings and panelling in oak, some of them by poor Mooney, who may be said to have lived and died in the employment of the munificent proprietor. He has been succeeded by another native genius, Mr. Sinnott, who, although but a young man, has transcended even the finest efforts of the deceased carver. I saw beautiful specimens of this young artist's, than which nothing could be more clear or nearer to perfection. The furniture of this grand apartment is in keeping with its character; the chairs, sofas, tables, and book-cases are all of the choicest and best description; this is such a room as Bacon, Newton, Locke, or Walter Scott, would like to call his own. We next proceeded to the dining-parlour, a fine room, of an oblong form: here, also, oak panelling and carving can be seen; the darkness of the oak is finely relieved by the rich gilding of the ceiling and the other parts of the chamber. This room has a really gorgeous appearance, and reminds one of the House of Lords, which, in some measure, it resembles both in figure and decoration. Like the lordly chamber, it requires lighting up, to be seen to full advantage. The several articles of furniture are of the richest quality and newest patterns; to recapitulate them would be an impossibility. The tables, sofas, chairs, mirrors, vases, and the mantelpiece, with its unique ornaments, leave an impression on the mind which even time can scarcely erase. I noticed here beautiful candelabra, which are formed by richly-gilt allegorical figures, the glowing light issuing from the hand of each graceful figure; one of these was a carving by Mooney, and was finely executed.

Having viewed these magnificent rooms, we ascended the great staircase, which is lighted by a window of large dimensions, the curtains of which are of Utrecht velvet. In our farther ascent we noticed a splendid picture, by Parris, of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, and their elder daughter, the Honourable Mrs. Deane, then a most interesting child, who is represented as caressing a fine dog, of the Newfoundland breed. This is a very fine painting; Mrs. Morgan's likeness is as truthful as it

is exquisitely finished, and, although painted many years ago, is a perfect likeness up to the present hour. Mr. Morgan's was, I am sure, an excellent likeness when painted, but his figure being more robust now than it was at that time, renders the identity less striking; the features, however, cannot be mistaken, they are well defined and correctly truthful. There are in some of the rooms splendid paintings by the same artist. On the left of the grand staircase, you enter a large and very fine bed-chamber; the decorations, although not complete, were in a forward state; the papering is remarkably beautiful, and of French manufacture, the pattern chaste, the colouring clear and perfect, and the figures finely developed. In this room stands a bed of a light, lofty, and elegant appearance, richly ornamented with gilding; this room, when finished, will be a really beautiful one. On the right of the staircase, and opposite to the last-mentioned chamber, a fine room, of smaller dimensions, will form a dressing-room to the bedchamber. At present, a small bed occupies the centre of this room, the curtains of which are also of Utrecht velvet. They are hung in a tent-like shape, the centre ending in a cone, surmounted by a golden ornament resembling a coronet.

We now arrived at the grand gallery, from which we entered the splendid suite of apartments which comprise the drawing-rooms and boudoirs. It cannot be expected that I dare attempt a minute description of these elegantly-furnished rooms; the ceilings, the rich and gorgeous papering, the magnificent curtains and the drapery in general; the mantelpieces, and the articles of *vertù* that ornament them; the splendid mirrors, the vases, the candelabra, the tables, chairs, sofas, ottomans, and the other indescribable articles—so grand, so gorgeous, so chastely beautiful, and so new—render it impossible that one like myself, so unskilled in the science of elegant luxury, and so limited in point of time, could do anything but fail in an effort to accomplish what even a very clever person would be unequal to. Here, indeed, the graphic and glowing pen of Alexandre Dumas might be employed with effect.

The first drawing-room is a fine oblong room, of elegant proportions; the decorations and furniture are truly magnificent and judiciously selected, while everything is so artistically arranged as to call forth the highest commendation. The window, which is large, admits a full stream of light, that falls on the various articles of *vertù*, so as to set them off to the finest possible advantage. The appearance of the lake and the lawns, with the fine old ivy-clad castle, is really beautiful, as seen from this window. The window-curtains are of Irish tabinet—the coverings of the sofas, ottomans, &c., are of the same material—the colour, a mixture of azure and amber. The papering is of green and gold, and of an exceedingly neat pattern. Large and magnificent mirrors, the frames of which are of the richest carving in oak, grace this fine apartment. One of these frames was carved by native workmen, employed at the castle. Here also gilt figures, elegantly wrought, serve as chandeliers. In this room there is a fine painting, by one of the best masters, representing St. Agnes: her right arm thrown over a lamb, the emblem of innocence and purity; the colouring is true and life-like, and the expression of the saint that of unmis-takable piety and sanctity. It would seem that this picture was smuggled into this country from Italy; when it arrived, the saint was represented as leaning, in a pensive posture, upon an urn. Some of the connoisseurs, perceiving that the picture had a stained and dirty appearance, recommended that it should undergo the process of cleaning, and accordingly it was sub-mitted to a skilful renovator, who, while exercising his skill upon it, was surprised to find that the urn entirely disappeared, and along with it the veil which had hitherto obscured its per-fections. Thus its rare qualities again displayed themselves, and the ingenious device which was resorted to, in order to lessen the high duty consequent on its importation, became accounted for. Another picture of great merit can be seen in this room, which represents three children, members of the ancient family of Knox, the ancestors of Mr. Morgan, whose

name he bears. These children are portrayed as being eminently beautiful—the eldest about ten years old, the second eight, and the youngest six. From this room there is a communication with another part of the castle, by an ingeniously-contrived door, the front of which is a large mirror. A stranger would never imagine that an entrance existed in this quarter. The second drawing-room in size and appearance accords with the first; the ceiling and papering are equally rich, but varying in their style of beauty; the furniture, too, forms, to a certain extent, a contrast to that which occupies the first room. The papering of this room is of a claret, brown, and gold. Here are to be seen elegantly-wrought figures, highly gilt, representing Atlas supporting the earth, the globes forming splendid candelabra. The window-curtains, and the covering of the furniture, are of Lyons brocade, of a peculiarly elegant appearance. A magnificent table, of the rarest material, occupies the recess of the window in this drawing-room. From this window also can be had an excellent view of the lake and the lawns. These splendid rooms are so open to each other, that they may be virtually considered as one and the same. That which more particularly arrested my attention, as I passed through the state apartments, was the beautiful boudoir, which is entered from the last-mentioned drawing-room. This may arise from its being so limited in extent as to be capable of being taken into view by a comparatively hurried examination; even a momentary glance cannot fail to excite the interest of the visitor. When I approached the door, I paused, and felt almost afraid to enter; nay, I could scarcely think myself at liberty to breathe, lest I should disarrange its light and elegant trappings. This beautiful room, this temple of all that is chaste and delicate in furniture and decoration, is the fitting abode of the pure and refined genius, to whose exquisite taste and rich imagination it owes its existence in its present shape. It is situated in the south-eastern tower, and is, therefore, called the tower boudoir. It is, as a matter of course, of circular form; a neat and beautiful

round table occupies the centre of the room ; the chairs are of a peculiar shape, and of a light and delicate appearance ; the recess, formed by the window, is filled by an elegantly upholstered seat, which is covered with a material of the finest texture ; the colour, a rich cerulean. The window-curtains and drapery are of Lyons silk, of a peculiarly delicate and chaste character.

The walls are decorated with tapestry of the richest and rarest description ; groups, representing innocent and happy rural life, appear on various parts of it ; the figures are chastely and truthfully developed. The artistic execution of these characters is considered as difficult in the performance as they are beautiful in appearance. The lawns and the lake can be seen to full advantage from the window. The style and embellishments of this *boudoir* are of a truly poetic character, and, to use the same language, it may justly be designated a seraphic dwelling. I have recently seen some rich and elegant apartments, but there is not one amongst the whole number I would so gladly look upon a second time as on this finely conceived and exquisitely executed tiny gem.

Another beautiful *boudoir* is entered from the second drawing-room also ; it is situated on the left hand, and is larger and somewhat different in its style of decoration. The *tout ensemble* of the tower-*boudoir* is essentially light and delicate, while the character and appearance of this one is more full and gorgeous. The furniture is of the most splendid description : the window curtains and drapery are of Lyons brocade. The walls are decorated with fine paintings by Parris, consisting of distinct and separate views of the castle, with fancy figures of the richest colouring and finish, representing "chiefs and ladies bright" in equestrian groups on different parts of the surrounding sunny lawns ; while other parties are seen, some of them sailing in a fine gondola upon the beautiful lake, and others indulging in pedestrian exercise upon its borders. It would require a genius and an aptitude of no common order to do justice to these unrivalled apartments. All that Moore has said in his

"Epicurean," or in his "Light of the Harem;" or that Byron so graphically described in "Lambro's Cottage" in the Grecian Isle, are fully realised in the magnificence and variety of these splendid rooms. It would be a treat for the connoisseur to see this noble suite of apartments lighted up on a gala night: the hundred lights which are available for such a grand occasion, when throwing their lustre on the gorgeous ceilings, the papering, tapestry, and furniture of these rooms, as well as the saloons on the lower story, must have an effect which should be seen to be properly understood.

The music-room is a fine apartment; the furniture and decoration of this room are in keeping with the other grand apartments of the castle. I saw some specimens of the works which have been executed at the castle, consisting of elegant and highly-polished chimney-pieces of white marble. One of these magnificent monuments of native manufacture is composed, in part, of a piece of white marble which, in the lifetime of Mr. Morgan's grandfather, stood as an ornament over the garden gate. The chiseling of the devices on this piece were considered such rare specimens of artistic skill, that the present proprietor was induced to appropriate it to the upper part of a grand chimney-piece; additional parts were prepared by the workmen who were employed at the castle, and, after great labour and skill, they were enabled to produce corresponding portions worthy of the rare and antique original. As a whole, it is now considered very beautiful. In one of the rooms I noticed a rich and beautiful chimney-piece composed of slate; the polish is of the finest character, the colour a jet black; it is intersected with veins of gold: this, of itself, is a great curiosity.

Ascending from this elegant suite of rooms, we entered the second grand gallery. Here, I have no doubt, a skilful architect would pause to admire the grandeur and beauty of the design and workmanship which this part of the castle displays. Around this gallery are to be seen pictures of merit by the best masters; one of them a fine "Samuel"—a perfect representation

of this sanctified character. The "Ruins of Jerusalem" is a splendid effort, and faithfully represents the desolation of this holy and celebrated city. There is also a fine full-length portrait of George the Third, in his regal robes. In this gallery other rare specimens of painting attract the notice of the visitor.

We now entered the grand bed-chamber, which is immediately above the grand drawing-room. I was equally surprised and delighted with the bed, and the several articles of furniture which are contained in this room. The curtains of the bed and of the window are of the richest description of Lyons brocade. Some very fine pictures are to be seen in this room, but it took so much time to view these magnificent saloons and the several articles of elegance and *bijouterie* which they contain, that I could not think of taxing Mr. Morgan by causing him to wait while I could take a note of every object that presented itself; therefore I am not in a position to give a description of these paintings; they appeared, however, to be excellent efforts of art. The view from the window of this chamber is very extensive and eminently beautiful, embracing within it not only the lawns, the lake, the fine old castle, and the castle of Rathmacnee, but even enables the eye to range over the whole space of the barony of Forth, which lies between Johnstown and the sea, and even a considerable portion of the sea itself becomes open to the view from this commanding eminence. From this window Mr. Morgan pointed out the valley which he purposes to annex to the lake, whereby it will be considerably enlarged.

We entered and viewed several finely furnished bed-rooms on this storey, and then proceeded to that part where the baths and machinery for supplying the castle with water are to be seen: everything which can minister to the safety, the comfort, and even to the luxury of the inmates, has been secured and provided.

We now descended by a flight of stone steps, until we again fell in with the grand staircase, and thence descended to the hall, where, in such terms of gratitude as I could command, I

endeavoured to express my acknowledgments to the excellent Mr. Morgan, and retired, deeply impressed with his great kindness and condescension. Visitors, specially favoured as I was, must leave Johnstown Castle filled with admiration of its beauty and grandeur, and, if strangers to the neighbourhood, must be forcibly struck with the wealth and liberality of its proprietor; but should they confine their views to the objects to be seen on the demesne, important as they unquestionably are, they will have but a comparatively imperfect notion of the true character of Mr. Morgan. In order to form a just appreciation of this pure philanthropist, it would be necessary that they should make a circuit of the surrounding country for several miles; they would then be enabled to read, in a truly practical volume, the real character of this excellent landlord. The comfortable and substantially-built and slated farm-house, with its neat garden or orchard, and its tasteful *parterre*, will speak, in language not to be misunderstood, his best eulogium. Many of the tenant farmers on his estate, are frequently to be seen as well mounted as some of the surrounding gentry, following the hounds, in the hunting season; while his day-labourers dwell in neatly-slated cottages, where the creeping woodbine, or mayhap the sweetly-scented rose, declares, in silent but convincing terms, that comfort and comparative refinement are not strangers to those who live within the range of his influence and his bounty. With such generous and bountiful dispositions, and a fortune of 20,000*l.* a year, which is all spent in his own neighbourhood, it may be very naturally supposed that blessings are daily offered up, for the health and welfare of himself, and the equally humane and benevolent Mrs. Morgan.

CHAPTER XX.



WEXFORD.

HAVING, in some of the foregoing pages, noticed the reclamations and improvements which have been effected in the Wexford Harbour, and having indulged my anticipations regarding the advantages that are likely to arise by the opening of the bridge free to the public, perhaps it may not be considered superfluous to say a few words in reference to the town itself. Wexford can be seen to the greatest advantage from the Ferrybank side, and especially from the height which stands immediately south of Ely House. The site of the town may be said to extend somewhat more than a mile and a half from north to south, and presents the appearance of a long and straggling place, its breadth bearing no just proportion to its length. It is bounded on the east by the Slaney, which spreads itself considerably after passing through the bridge, and forms the harbour. On the west it is bounded by a gentle elevation, which affords shelter from the prevailing westerly winds. The northern boundary is formed by a stream, which flows in front of the Union House, and discharges itself into the Slaney at Carcur; while the southern boundary is defined by another stream, that runs south of the demesne of Rocklands, and falls into the harbour. These were the old and the natural limits of the town. The new or parliamentary boundaries were prepared under the direction of the government immediately previous to the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832. They were marked out by the celebrated Mr. Drummond, who was afterwards Under-Secretary for Ireland, and have been adopted by the government in issuing the new charter of incorporation to the

town, under the provisions of the late Municipal Act. The north and south extremities of the ancient borough have been considerably curtailed by Mr. Drummond's survey. This alteration is much to be regretted, and is, at present, found to operate greatly to the prejudice of the inhabitants, as it throws the whole of the municipal rates on that part which lies within the new or parliamentary limits, and exempts the portions of the ancient borough, which have been thus severed from the remainder of the town.

The town, when viewed from beyond the bridge, shows a line of fresh and comfortable houses, amongst which may be seen Riversfield House, Carcur House, Strandfield House, Richmond House, the Rectory, and Wellington Cottage in the northern suburbs; while more immediately within the town can be seen the Jail, Fortview, the castles of Selskar Abbey, the Court House, the church, the Roman Catholic chapel, the Franciscan convent, the Nunnery, the Theatre, the Bank of Ireland, the Chamber of Commerce, the new steam-mill, the military barracks, the dockyard, the school that has been lately erected in the Faythe, and many other private houses which it is unnecessary to enumerate. In the back-ground appears the Union House, Elmvile, Belvidere, St. Peter's College, the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Summerhill, Cromwell's Fort, Mulgannon House, the new house recently built by Robert Stafford, Esq., the present Mayor, and Rocklands, the seat of John Thomas Devereux, Esq., member of Parliament for the borough. This town retains, up to the present day, many of its ancient features.

The town wall, commencing at the river Slaney, a few perches north of the west gate, extended in an irregular line to the strand of the harbour at Paul Quay, a short distance east of the castle gate, and is still in a state of comparative preservation. There were originally five gates in this wall—one called the Cow-gate, since known as the West-gate; one at John's-gate, which leads from the Corn-market to John-street; one called St. Peter's-gate, at the Old Pound; one called Bride-street-gate,

and the other called Castle-gate, which adjoined the ground on which the present military barracks stand. A gate also stood at Mary-street, or Chapel-lane, called Raby's-gate, which is mentioned in ancient leases of the corporation. It is more than probable that this street was opened by Mr. Raby, who was the owner of the property on the north side of it, now in the possession of Martin's representatives, and that he was required by the authorities of that day to erect a gate of defence at this point, which gate bore his name. Two castles, in a state of tolerable preservation, stand attached to the town wall—one at Selskar, a few perches south of the West-gate, and the other a few yards north of Upper Rowe-street. There are also three small round towers, from which the archers of former days discharged their arrows; one about twenty yards north of Upper George's-street, another in Abbey-street, north of the market-house, and the third at Laffan's-lane, a few yards south of John's-gate. On the rising ground, where the military barracks now stand, there formerly stood a large and strong castle, which from its elevated situation had a full command of the river. This was removed many years ago. A castle of smaller dimensions, detached from the town wall, appears in a state of comparative preservation at Selskar Abbey; the new church adjoins this castle. Three others of the same character formerly stood within the town—one of them at John's-gate, called John's Castle, another on the line of the main street, at the corner of Oyster-lane, and the third near the concerns of Mr. Francis Harper, at Crescent Quay. The two last mentioned were situated on the strand, near high-water mark; they were removed within the last thirty years. The corporation is in receipt of nominal rents for the portion of ground that lies within twenty-two feet on each side of the town wall; the portion within the wall was used as a rampart when the town was in a state of defence, while that portion which lies on the outside formed the ditch. Besides the wall of circumvallation, there were two divisional walls; one of these ran from the

boundary-wall to the sea, south of the Bull-ring, while the other ran on a line north of Gibson's-lane, at a place called the Old-gate. The space between these walls I suppose to have been the *dernier ressort*. The narrowness of the streets is another of its ancient characteristics. This is an evil, experienced in all old towns, but which the hand of improvement is steadily remedying. Here, however, obstacles of no ordinary character present themselves; for the property which formerly belonged to the corporation has, many years ago, been leased, in some instances for ever, and in others for 999 years, at merely nominal rents, while a portion of it has been alienated altogether from corporate uses, thus disabling the municipal body from widening the present confined and narrow thoroughfares; besides, the evil is of such extent, that to remove it, the greater part of the principal or main street should have to undergo an entire change. I know no place in Ireland, with the exception of Queenstown, where the harbour appears to greater advantage than does that of Wexford. Viewed from the centre of the bridge, at high tide, and looking in a south-easterly direction, a sheet of water, covering an area of about a dozen square miles, presents itself, and in fine weather is as clear and transparent as if it were a sheet of glass. It is bounded on the south and east by a low line of sand-banks, in the centre of which the narrow entrance or bar may be seen. Looking north-west from the bridge, a very beautiful sight meets the view; the Slaney, gradually widening at the distance of about two miles, washes the strand of the demesnes of Saunderscourt and Artramont; these demesnes again forming an inclined plane, display their finely planted and rich lawns to the admiring beholder, while in the back-ground the lofty summits of Blackstairs and Mount Leinster break upon the view, and add a finish and a beauty to the whole. The harbour of Wexford and its bays have been most accurately defined on the map which has been prepared by that excellent gentleman, Captain Denis Kenselah, whose critical acumen, arising from practical experience, qualifies him

in an eminent degree for so important an undertaking. The line of quays may be said to be nearly a mile in length, three-fourths of which are under the jurisdiction and surveillance of the quay and harbour commissioners, and about one-fourth the private property of John Edward Redmond, Esq., being the frontage of that part of the once submerged ground reclaimed by him. Some of the best houses in the town are those which, within the last thirty years, have been built along these quays. From the vestibule of St. Peter's College, which stands on the centre of the acclivity that lies west of the town, an excellent view of the harbour and its bays may be obtained. The whole range from Blackwater Head, which forms the extremity of the north bay to the Tuskar lighthouse, that stands beyond Greenore Point, which forms the extreme limit of the south bay, falls at once under observation. There is also a fine back view from this elevation, several of the objects already mentioned coming within its range, together with a considerable tract of country north-east of the Slaney, extending to Corrigrue Hill.

The College itself is a very interesting feature, being a fine square building, of large and regular proportions, while the additions which have been recently erected, under the immediate supervision of the late lamented very Reverend Doctor Sinnot, are at once extensive and beautiful, and comprise the main features of the building as it now stands. These additions consist of a long suite of apartments, which extend south of the original building, and are graced in the centre by a light and lofty tower, ornamented on each angle by octagonal minarets. A very beautiful and richly ornamented window stands above the arched entrance gate of the tower. This range of apartments is flanked on the south by an elegant chapel, built in Pugin's best style of architecture, and supported by buttresses and pilasters. A large and very beautiful circular window stands in the eastern gable of this chapel, and is richly ornamented with beautiful stained glass, and above this gable a handsome cross, while a neat and characteristic belfry surmounts the western

gable, from which springs another ornamental cross. Taken as a whole, St. Peter's is a really handsome structure, and requires only the mellowing hand of time to mature and embellish it with the appearance of reverend old age, and thereby add a dignity and an interest to its unquestionable beauty and grandeur. The situation is very commanding, and the appearance particularly striking when viewed from a distance, or from on board a vessel approaching the harbour. It forms an excellent beacon for ships bound to the port. The Convent of the Sisters of Mercy stands west of St. Peter's College; it is a fine house, of three stories in height. It is flanked on the north by a very pretty school-house, and on the south by a new and handsome chapel; both the school-house and the chapel are built in Pugin's style of architecture. These buildings are connected by corridors with the centre house. There are two fine Gothic windows in the western gable of the chapel, with three circular ornamented niches, and a fine circular window in the western gable of the school; each gable is surmounted by a cross, the emblem of salvation.

Wexford, from its isolated situation, lying on the south-eastern extremity of the island, derives no advantage from an intercourse with other localities, save what arises from its navigation; however, the advantage arising from this important source amply compensates for its comparative non-intercourse with other parts of the island, and affords a profitable branch of traffic to the native merchants. The great difficulty which a shifting bar presents to vessels trading to the port, has prevented any considerable competition from other quarters. The Wexford merchants, as a body, are well worthy of the advantages they enjoy; they are an upright and honourable class of men, and it is a rare thing, indeed, to find the name of a Wexford man, whether merchant or other trader, in the "Gazette." The vessels which hitherto belonged to the port have been of light burden, owing to the difficulty of entering the harbour; but latterly, many vessels of comparatively large size have been

built or purchased, and a constant trade is carried on with America and the Mediterranean. Vessels of large size are lightened in the bay. The brothers Devereux are the owners of a greater number of ships than any other firm in Ireland. The elder brother, Richard Devereux, Esq., has, hitherto, confined himself exclusively to business; his charity and benevolence are perfectly in keeping with his abundant means. The other brother, John Thomas Devereux, Esq., is, at present, and has been for some years, the representative of the borough; his patriotism and independence reflect equal honour on himself and the town which he so faithfully represents. The brothers Allen also own a considerable number of ships, many of which are of large size. There are several boats engaged in the fishing trade, and numerous families are supported from this source of industry. Oysters and every variety of fish can be had on reasonable terms. A steam-vessel of tolerable size leaves once a week for Liverpool, taking, as freight, cattle, sheep, and pigs. Poultry of every description has long been plentiful in the Wexford market, and a brisk trade in this article is carried on with Liverpool.

The baronies of Forth and Bargy, which lie south of the town and on the borders of the Channel, are peopled by an industrious race, who are said to be descendants of the early English settlers, or of those who, more recently, accompanied Cromwell's army to this country. They have intermarried with each other, and have preserved much of the thrifty and sober habits which those, who are partial to the English peasantry, claim as their general characteristics. They are considered excellent farmers; their agricultural skill and persevering industry, together with their general proximity to the sea-shore, which affords them the means of obtaining a supply of marine manure, enable them to pay high rents, and punctually to discharge the liabilities to which they are subjected. Extensive limestone quarries are constantly being worked within two or three miles of the town of Wexford, from which the inhabitants

of the district, as well as those from more distant parts of the county, are supplied.

The inhabitants of the town are, for the most part, sprung from the same stock, and, although sufficiently Irish in their hearts, resemble the English in their habits and manners. Many of our excellent resident gentry reside within this circle ; as, for instance, H. K. Grogan Morgan, Esq., M.P. for the county ; John Rowe, Esq., who has conferred such substantial advantages on his part of the country, by reclaiming the submerged lands of Ballyteigne, and who has thereby added 1800 acres to the arable land of the district. It was an interesting sight, about a month since, to have seen sixty ploughs employed, in one day, turning up the soil which had been from time immemorial under water. Extensive works are also being carried on under the Board of Works at Kilmore, where a substantial pier is now in a forward state, which shall afford shelter and protection, in wild and coarse weather, to the fishing boats employed in that industrious and rising locality. Works such as these, when coupled with what is going on in the Wexford Harbour, and what has lately been accomplished by George Powell Houghton, Esq., in the neighbourhood of Dunbrody Abbey, where extensive reclamations have been made, will serve to account for our county being more favourably circumstanced than almost any county in Ireland during the late years of destitution and distress. John Hyacinth Talbot, Esq., M.P. for the town of New Ross, may be also considered as a resident of this district, as he spends a considerable portion of each year at his splendid marine villa, Ballytrent. Edward Westby Nunn, Esq., a large proprietor, has recently fitted up the family mansion for a constant residence. He was well represented, during a long minority, by his uncle and agent, John Nunn, Esq., of Silver-spring.

Bargy Castle, the ancient seat of the Harvey family, is finely situated, and surrounded by lands both rich and fertile. The demesne is ornamented by trees of great age and magnitude,

which give it a noble appearance. Captain John Harvey, the representative of this old family, is a constant resident, and dwells in this castle, the mansion of his ancestors. Killiane Castle was also the residence of a branch of the Harvey family. The father of the present owner of this estate, having married an English lady, became a non-resident, and his son, in this respect, continues to follow his example. The castle and demesne are at present in the occupation of a respectable and wealthy tenant. Killiane must have been at one time a very important place; it consists of a strong keep, covering an area of nearly half a statute acre. The residence is in the west front, and has the appearance of a house of long standing; it is flanked on the south by a strong castle, larger than those which are generally to be seen in this part of the country. A massive round tower stands on the north-east angle of the keep or court; these buildings, which are of the strongest masonry, although long neglected, are still in a state of comparative preservation. They are surrounded by rich and extensive lawns and meadows. The baronies of Forth and Bargy abound in castles of this description, but not so large: it would be foreign to the character of this work to particularise them. Mrs. S. C. Hall mentions as many as thirty-one in the barony of Forth, and twenty-seven in the barony of Bargy; from this it may be inferred that the early English settlers lived in a state of constant alarm.

Thomas Boyse, Esq., of Bannow, is also a constant resident; studiously attentive to the interests of his tenants, and devoted to literature, he may be said to lead a life of virtuous retirement, and sighs over the fate of the country that he loves, but which, owing to the delicate state of his health, he is prevented from endeavouring to serve in the imperial parliament. Not many years ago he laid out a large sum in building a splendid mansion. It was in progress of erection in the year 1835, when his friend and the friend of his country, the illustrious Moore, paid him a visit. The patriotic, the eloquent, the refined

Boyse, was a proud and happy man on that occasion. As the celebrated poet has always been considered in the light of a native of the town of Wexford—at least we can claim the better half of him, his mother being a Wexford lady,—numerous parties proceeded to Bannow, to see and to welcome his arrival in the county. On that remarkable occasion two gentlemen and I were named as a deputation to present the poet with an address from the “Slaney Amateur Society,” of which we were members. He received us very graciously, and, in returning his answer to the address which I had the honour of reading to him, he made use of these memorable words: “It is to me a source of much pleasure and gratification to find that so many of the good people of Wexford are present, to witness the proud triumph of the grandson of honest Tom Codd, of Corn-market.” Sentiments like these reflect the highest honour on the man who used them, and should be preserved in letters of gold. On the next day, accompanied by his friend Mr. Boyse, he came into Wexford and called at the Corn-market to visit the house where he so often was a sojourner in his juvenile days. Alas! he whose presence awakened such high feelings, and was marked by such demonstrations of joy and triumph, is at present labouring under a severe indisposition, his lamp of life perhaps pale and flickering, and those brilliant faculties which have made his name familiar to every nation of the earth, and which have won for him a deathless immortality, dimmed or gone. Yet his works will cause his name to live for ever. Oh! is there an Irishman who can forget him, our own prized and matchless minstrel, who, in moments of an inspired enthusiasm, seized, with a master-hand, the harp of his country, and, breathing over its strings the pure emanations of his ardent and patriotic spirit, caused it to vibrate with sounds of the richest and most dulcet melody. Should the lovers of genius follow him to oriental regions, they will find that in his beautiful poem of “Lalla Rookh” he was as much at home amid the gorgeous and magnificent scenery of the East, as when he made his native

country the theme of his adoption. Nor has he stopped even here, for, by the force of his great genius, sportive fancy and creative imagination, he has taken an upward flight, and raised himself above this sublunary world to revel in scenes celestial, where, like another Milton, he describes, not angelic warfare, but angelic love. In such a mind as his, friendship is paramount to every other consideration; and hence we find him employed in gathering flowers, to strew upon the grave, where, alas! too early for liberty and man, his noble friend, the glorious Byron, lies! Their variegated beauties serve to relieve the sombre and monotonous waving of the willow and the cypress, that hang mournfully over the tomb of liberty, of literature, of genius, and of song.*

As a proof of the self-sustaining power which the town of Wexford possesses, even in the worst of times, I have only to mention that two large churches, for the accommodation of the Roman Catholic inhabitants, are now being erected. The church which is intended for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the north part of the town is situated in Upper Rowe-street; and that for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the south is on an elevation between Bride-street and Upper King-street. These buildings are of considerable dimensions, and of equal size, being 130 feet by 60 in the clear, exclusively of the porches and the tower; the tower is 16 feet by 16 in the clear; the walls of it are 5 feet thick, with buttresses of similar dimensions; the wall between the church and the tower is 6 feet; the spiral stairs, which will be in one side of the tower, 5 feet in the diameter. The porches are 10 feet by 10 in the clear, with buttresses on each side; the nave 26 feet, and the aisles 14 feet 6 inches in breadth; there are six columns on each side, with octagon pilasters; the height of the steeple, including the cross, is to be 222 feet.

* These observations were committed to paper in the month of November, 1851, which was three months previous to the decease of the lamented and never-to-be-forgotten Moore.

When speaking of these churches, the name of Mr. Morgan is again brought under the notice of a grateful public, he having, with the utmost liberality, bestowed a valuable piece of ground, containing half an acre, on the parish. This ground immediately adjoins the site of the new south church, and will form an important adjunct to that building. Other acts of liberality have been experienced and gratefully acknowledged by the pastor, the Reverend James Roche, and the parishioners in general. The name of Sir Robert Fitz Wygram, Baronet, has been already mentioned; he has given a valuable piece of ground adjoining the north church.

The other donor is Francis Geary, Esq., who at present acts as the representative of his highly honourable family. He has, with the most praiseworthy liberality, given a plot of ground that adjoins the north church, and which is considered a valuable and indispensable appendage to it. Acts like these must be highly appreciated by the people for whose use and benefit they have been conferred. To prove the interest taken by the inhabitants in these buildings, it is only necessary to mention that, responding to the call of their zealous and excellent pastor, they have, in a single week, put down their names for the sum of 3000*l.*, to be paid in five annual instalments; and on Sunday, the 12th of October, 1851, over 600*l.*, as their first instalment, was received by the Rev. Mr. Roche. This large sum has been given as a donation, independently of the regular weekly subscriptions for the erection of the churches; the weekly subscriptions will not only continue to be paid, but will be even considerably increased. Wexford has always been a truly religious and moral town; this fact is attested by the ruins of the churches that are still to be seen in the neighbourhood. Selskar Abbey, St. Patrick's, St. Mary's, and a small ruin at Maudlintown, are in a state of tolerable preservation; and in addition to these, traces of a small church, called St. Doologe's, may be seen near the town-wall boundary, adjoining the military barracks.

It is consoling to think that we have not entirely degenerated from the Christian piety of our ancestors : our population, of about 13,000, can point to the several religious houses at present in the town as a proof of their attachment to their respective creeds. There are in Wexford two Protestant churches ; the principal of these is the church of St. Iberius, which stands in the centre of the town : this is a plain strong building of the Doric order. The interior harmonises with its external appearance ; a neat and well-toned organ stands in the west gallery. I have always considered it a handsome and solemn-looking church. Selskar Church is of small dimensions, and of recent erection ; it partakes of some of the characteristics of Pugin's style of architecture ; it is nicely situated, with its western gable adjoining the fine old castle of the ancient abbey, which gives it a rich and comparatively venerable appearance. The only Roman Catholic chapel which has been available for the inhabitants of the parish, for many years, is that which adjoins the convent of the Franciscan Friars. This was originally a fine chapel of an oblong form, but the increasing congregation rendered it expedient, some thirty-six years since, to enlarge it by the addition of a wing, which extends on the north of the eastern gable, whereby the uniformity of the building was interfered with, and the harmony of its appearance injured. About twenty years ago a further enlargement took place, which was effected by the erection of side galleries extending for a considerable distance along the aisles, from the gallery which always stood in the western end of the chapel : these additions had a still greater tendency to destroy its beauty.

The increasing demand for accommodation has rendered it imperative on those upon whom the responsibility devolves, to provide suitable convenience for the increasing congregation, and hence the efforts which are now being made for the accomplishment of this great object. When the new churches are fit for the reception of the public, we will have three commodious houses for Roman Catholic worship. An alteration in the

gallery which stands in the new wing, and the removal of the side galleries, would make the present chapel convenient and eligible. These improvements could be effected by the expenditure of a few hundred pounds. The fine space in front of the chapel, in the centre of which stands a beautiful tree, with others of a smaller description that are surrounded by a neat iron railing, affords a healthful and agreeable promenade, and causes it to be looked on by the inhabitants with great favour. On the south of the chapel there is also a popular burial ground, where most of the respectable inhabitants have relatives interred : this, likewise, causes them to be partial to the locality. There are other causes, in addition to those already mentioned, which endear this chapel to many of the parishioners ; it was built in the life-time of the late very Reverend Father Corrin, who was for over fifty years their pastor, and whom they loved with an undying affection ; while the convent produced many able and revered characters, of whom they felt, and still feel, justly proud.

Amongst others may be mentioned the names of the Right Reverend Doctors Lambert, Scallan, and Fleming, who were the successive bishops of Newfoundland, and Doctor Hughes, the present Bishop of Gibraltar, and his renowned relative, the celebrated Father Richard Hayes. These eminent ecclesiastics were all brothers of the Franciscan order, and graduates of this convent. Within the last eighteen years, an ornamental addition, which has been converted into a library, was erected on the western extremity of the convent. A light square tower stands in the north front, and forms a part of the new building. It is embellished on each angle by a pinnacle, a small octagon tower, with *louvre* window-springs from between these pinnacles, surmounted by a cupola, which supports a ball and cross. This graceful appendage to the chapel and convent forms a distinguishing feature, and can be seen for many miles. Besides the chapels already mentioned, which are attached to St. Peter's College, and the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, there is a

neat and beautiful chapel at the Presentation Convent. Numbers of girls are educated at these convents, and some of the most useful and virtuous, although humble, of our mothers and daughters, owe the blessings they enjoy to the moral and religious sentiments imbibed while pupils at these institutions. A very neat Wesleyan Chapel has, within the last fifteen or sixteen years, been built at the end of Rowe-street, and a very handsome Presbyterian church, still more recently, in Anne-street. These houses were built by Mr. Thomas Willis, who is the contractor for building the new Roman Catholic church in Upper Rowe-street. A Quaker's Meeting-house has also been built in High-street, within the last ten or twelve years. As a further proof of the liberality and public spirit of the people of Wexford, a school for the education of the children of the poor is about to be erected in the north section of the town, for which a sum of nearly 500*l.* is already subscribed. This amount has been raised by public subscription, for the purpose of erecting a testimonial to the memory of the late very Reverend Doctor Sinnot, Vicar-General of the diocese, and parish priest of Wexford. It being well known that a public school, of this character, was long considered a desideratum by him, the committee which was appointed by the parish, for the purpose of having a suitable monument raised to his memory, came to the conclusion that an institution of this character was, under all the circumstances, an appropriate and characteristic mode of carrying out the object contemplated by the friends and admirers of the gifted deceased, who was the true impersonation of the patriot, the scholar, and the clergyman.

I have now brought my hurried labours to a conclusion, and I trust that those readers who have been pleased to accompany me in my wanderings have not experienced much disappointment. In a work of this character, especially when appearing in the shape of a journal, many things must necessarily be found of a dry and uninteresting nature. For these I hope reasonable allowance will be made.

It may also be remembered that, although at distant intervals, the time actually consumed in these gleanings was very limited indeed, not being altogether quite three months. This, I trust, will not operate to my disadvantage; perhaps, on the contrary, it may entitle me to additional indulgence.

To the ladies, to the noblemen, clergymen, and gentlemen who have honoured me by becoming my subscribers, I have here to express my warmest thanks; and while thus tendering my respectful acknowledgments, I have also the proud satisfaction of being enabled to state that, owing to the kindly feeling manifested in my regard, I am ultimately in a position to count them by the hundred.

THE END.

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 Boyse, Miss, ditto.
 Braddell, Thomas, Prospect, ditto.
 Bransfield, J., Wexford.
 Breen, Patrick, jun., Castlebridge, County Wexford.
 Brennan, Rev. Daniel, V.P., St. Keiran's College, Kilkenny.
 Brennan, L., P.P., Taghmon, County Wexford.
 Brett, Edward Edmund Clerke, Rathmacnee, ditto.
 Britt, Thomas, Clonmel.
 Brown, James, Ross.
 Browne, John, Liverpool.
 Browne, William, Wexford.
 Bryan, Robert Butler, Palace, Ferns, County Wexford.
 Buchanon, S., Ardamine Lodge, Gorey.
 Burke, M., P.P., V.G., Clonmel.
 Busher, Thomas, P.P., Oilgate, County Wexford.
 Byrne, William, Mayor, Clonmel.
 Byrne, Michael, Gorey.
 Byrne, Patrick, Glynn, County Wexford.
 Byrne, W., L.V., London.
 Byrne, William, Tomduff, County Wexford.

COURTOWN, the Right Hon. the Earl of Courtown, Gorey.
 Carew, the Right Hon. Lord, Castleboro.
 Carew, Lady, ditto.
 Carew, the Hon. Robert Shapland, ditto.
 Carew, the Hon. Mrs. R. S., ditto.
 Cadogan, Walter, Mullinderry Mills, County Wexford.
 Cadogan, A., Grenville Mills, County Kilkenny.
 Cahill, D. W., D.D., Esker College, Galway.
 Cahill, John, B., Clonmel.
 Cahill, Gregory, Wexford.
 Callanan, John, Victoria Hotel, Kilkenny.
 Campbell, Peter, Wexford.
 Campbell, Charles, ditto.
 Cane, Robert, M.D., Kilkenny.
 Cantwell, Thomas, Alderman, Clonmel.
 Cardiff, Robert, M.D., Alderman, Wexford.

- Cardiff, Robert John, M.D., Tintern, County Wexford.
 Cardiff, John, Liverpool.
 Carleton, Robert W., Ross.
 Carley, William, Wexford.
 Carpenter, I., London.
 Carr, Edward, jun., solicitor, Camblin, Ross.
 Carr, James, Wexford.
 Carr, John, ditto.
 Carroll, Thomas, Dublin.
 Carroll, Thomas H., Carlow.
 Carroll, Thomas, Liverpool.
 Carroll, Edward, Begerin Island, County Wexford.
 Carroll, George, Wexford.
 Carroll, Richard, Waterford.
 Carty, Edward, Scoughmolin, County Wexford.
 Chandler, Patrick, Wexford.
 Cheevers, Nicholas, Kilmacree, County Wexford.
 Cherry, William, Creywell, Ross.
 Claney, Thomas, C. C., Caruagh, County Wexford.
 Claney, Patrick, Ballindinis, ditto.
 Clayton, Richard Browne, Ballyshannon Cottage, ditto.
 Cliffe, Anthony, Bellevue, ditto.
 Clifford, Edward John, Ashfield, ditto.
 Clifford, Miss Barbara, Wexford.
 Clifford, Miss Mary Anne, ditto.
 Codd, Nicholas, C.C., Carrick, County Wexford.
 Codd, Francis, Dublin.
 Codd, Richard, Wexford.
 Codd, John, ditto.
 Codd, John, Newtown, ditto.
 Codd, Francis, Poulbrane, ditto.
 Codd, James F., Killeens, ditto.
 Codd, Thomas, Ringbawn, Kilmora, ditto.
 Codd, James, Mayglass, ditto.
 Codd, John, Moorfield, ditto.
 Codd, William, Bridgetown, ditto.
 Cuddy, John, T.C., ditto.
 Coghlan, William, Wicklow.
 Coghlan, John, M.D., Wexford.
 Colley, Francis P., Liverpool.
 Collins, John, St. John's, ditto.
 Colloton, Nicholas, Castlebridge, County Wexford.
 Comerford, John J., Enniscorthy.
 Commins, William, Ross.
 Compton, Ralph, Kilgibbon, County Wexford.
 Connell, Francis J., Bettyville, ditto.
 Connell, Mrs. F. J., ditto.
 Connick, William, Dublin.
 Connick, William, Wexford.
 Connor, Thomas, Wexford.
 Connor, Nicholas, Liverpool.
 Connor, Willoughby, Scooby, County Wexford.
 Cook, J., George's-street, Wexford.
 Cooke, W. B., Repeal Villa, County Wexford.
 Cooke, Philip M., Enniscorthy.
 Cookman, Charles C., Bessmount Monart, ditto.
 Cooney, Patrick, Wexford.
 Cooney, Mathew, ditto.
 Cooper, W. H., Enniscorthy.
 Corcoran, Laurence W., solicitor, ditto.
 Corcoran, P., Clonmel.
 Corish, Henry K., Bannow, County Wexford.
 Corish, John, Hayestown, ditto.
 Cornock, Rev. Zacharia, Cromwell's Fort ditto.
 Cornwall, John, Rutland-square, Dublin.
 Corran, Thomas, Liverpool.
 Corry, John, Wexford.
 Costello, Francis, Ross.
 Costello, R. Fort, Rosslare, County Wexford.
 Cousins, Nicholas, Newtown, ditto.
 Cowman, Nicholas, Polehore, ditto.
 Cowman, Philip, Ballygoman, ditto.
 Craig, George A., Maryville, ditto.
 Crane, Robert, M.D., T.C., Wexford.
 Crane, Mrs. R., ditto.
 Crane, James, O.S.A., Ross.
 Cranfield, Thomas Geo., M.D., Enniscorthy.
 Crosbie, James R., T.C., Wexford.
 Crosby, John, Carrig Hill, ditto.
 Crowley, Matthias Morgan, Durrow.
 Cullen, Daniel, Mayor, Kilkenny.
 Cullen, John, Wexford.
 Cullen, Philip, P.P., Rathangan, County Wexford.
 Cullen, Miss E. M., Carlow.
 Cullin, James, Ross.
 Cullin, John, Enniscorthy.
 Cummins, Edward, Hotel, Waterford.
 Cummins, Laurence, Wexford.
 DONOUGHMORE, the Right Honourable the Countess Dowager of, Belmont, Wexford.
 Dally, Nicholas, Balloughton, County Wexford.
 Dalton, M., Waterloo-road, Liverpool.
 Daly, James, Edwardstown, County Wexford.
 Daniel, L. H., Fortview, Wexford.
 Davis, J., C. G. officer, Courtown, Gorey.
 Davis, Francis S., Wexford.
 Davis, Samuel, Enniscorthy.
 Day, Martin, Johnstown Castle.
 Day, John, Gallagher, County Wexford.
 Dayrolles, Frederick, Rathaspeck House, Wexford.
 Deacon, Joseph, Dublin.
 Deane, Michael, Clonmel.
 De Lacy, Peter, Parliament-street, Dublin.
 Delahunty, James, Waterford.
 Dempsey, Thomas, Wexford.
 Dempsey, John, C.C., Carlow.
 Dempsey, James, Ballinkeel, County Wexford.
 Denny, Joseph, Waterford.
 Denny, Edward, ditto.
 Denroche, Abraham, Kilkenny.
 De Rinzy, Mrs. M. T., Clobemon Hall, County Wexford.
 De Rinzy, Robert, Liverpool.
 Desmond, James, Clonmel.

- Devereux, John Thomas, M.P., Rocklands, Wexford.
 Devereux, Miss, ditto.
 Devereux, Richard, jun., ditto.
 Devereux, Richard Joseph, Wexford.
 Devereux, Mrs. R. J., ditto.
 Devereux, Mark, Fort Rosslare, ditto.
 Devereux, Nicholas, A.M., Rector Kilrush, County Wexford.
 Devereux, Philip, P.P., Bree, ditto.
 Devereux, George, Castlebridge, ditto.
 Devereux, James, Enniscorthy.
 Devereux, John W., Solicitor, Kilkenny.
 Devine, Thomas, Ross.
 Dobbryn, Michael, Mayor, Waterford.
 Dobbryn, James, Hotel, ditto.
 Donnelly, Michael, Wexford.
 Donovan, Richard, Ballymore, County Wexford.
 Donovan, William, solicitor, Enniscorthy.
 Doran, John, Major, Ely House, Wexford.
 Doran, Mrs. J., ditto.
 Dorney, Thomas, Clonmel.
 Douglas, Captain, R.N., Wexford.
 Douglas, H. J., Kilkenny.
 Dowling, Edward, Carlow.
 Downes, Gregory, Adamstown, County Wexford.
 Downes, James, Kilkenny.
 Downey, Michael, Waterford.
 Dowsley, Richard S., Park Cottage, Wexford.
 Dowsley, Mrs. R. S., ditto.
 Dowsley, John, M.D., Clonmel.
 Doyle, Thomas, C.C., Ross.
 Doyle, Richard, O.S.A., Grantstown, County Wexford.
 Doyle, William, A., O.S.F., Wexford.
 Doyle, Michael, ditto.
 Doyle, Moses, ditto.
 Doyle, James, ditto.
 Doyle, Edward, Garrylough, County Wexford.
 Doyle, Patrick, Wexford.
 Doyle, Patrick, Broadway, County Wexford.
 Doyle, Phillip, Ross.
 Doyle, James, ditto.
 Doyle, P. G., ditto.
 Doyle, Philip, Whitechurch, County Wexford.
 Doyle, Joseph, Liverpool.
 Doyle, Hugh, ditto.
 Doynne, Robert Stephen, Wells, County Wexford.
 Drake, George, Stokestown, ditto.
 Drumgoole, Daniel, Dublin.
 Duchenin, Charles J., Birmingham.
 Dudley, William, Alexandria, Wexford.
 Dudley, Philip Sidney, Archerton, ditto.
 Duffe, Nicholas, Bulgan, County Wexford.
 Duffy, James, Dublin.
 Dugan, James, Hedge's Mill, County Wexford.
 Dunne, John, C.C., Monamolin, ditto.
 Dunne, Michael, Wexford.
 Dunne, John, T.C., Kilkenny.
 Durney, John, Wexford.
- ESMONDE, The Right Hon. Sir Thomas, Baronet, Ballynestragh, Gorey.
 Eakins, Walter, Richmond House, Wexford.
 Eaton, John, Mount Eaton, County Wexford.
 Edwards, James, Wexford.
 Edwards, George, Dublin.
 Elgee, Richard Waddy, Rector, Wexford.
 Elward, Robert, Hayestown, ditto.
 Elward, Nicholas, Killiane, ditto.
 Elward, Luke, Ballyfinnogue, ditto.
 Ennis, Michael, Wexford.
 English, Laurence, ditto.
- + FORAN, Nicholas, R. C. Bishop of Waterford.
 FitzWygram, Sir Robert, Bart., Connaught Place, London.
 Fanning, James, C.C., Mulrankin, County Wexford.
 Fanning, Nicholas, Wexford.
 Farmer, William Russell, Bloomfield, County Wexford.
 Farrell, James Barry, C.E., Strandfield, ditto.
 Farrell, Mrs. J. B., ditto.
 Farrell, Michael, Grafton-street, Dublin.
 Farrell, Miss M., Wexford.
 Fennelly, Patrick, Alderman, Clonmel.
 Figges, Edmond, College Green, Dublin.
 Finlay, John James, Inland Revenue, Wexford.
 Fitzhenry, John G., Borough Mills, County Wexford.
 Fitzhenry, Miss, Borough Hill, ditto.
 Fitzpatrick, Samuel, Upper Sackville-st., Dublin.
 Fitzsimons, Matthew, Hotel, Gorey.
 Flood, Edward S., Broomley Kyle, County Wexford.
 Flynn, M., P.P., Trinity Without, Waterford.
 Flynn, Patrick, Liverpool.
 Fogarty, Denis, Inland Revenue, Kilkenny.
 Foley, Denis, C.C., Glynn, County Wexford.
 Forrestal, Laurence, Alderman, Waterford.
 Fortune, Laurence Rathaspeck, County Wexford.
 Frayne, Patrick, Wexford.
 French, James, P.P., Kilrush, County Wexford.
 French, Anthony F., solicitor, Ross.
 French, Miss Eliza, Wexford.
 French, Garrett, 60, Worship-st., London.
 French, Garrett, Little Johnstown, County Wexford.
 Friend, A.
 Fuller, George, Kilkenny.
 Furlong, Thomas, P.P., Killeghney, County Wexford.
 Furlong, Nicholas, P.P., Newbawn, ditto.
 Furlong, William, C.C., Barnstown, ditto.
 Furlong, Andrew, surgeon, Streamville, ditto.
 Furlong, Robert James, S.R.C.F.I., Wexford.
 Furlong, Thomas, Dublin.
 Furlong, James, Riverdale, County Wexford.

- Furlong, Joseph, Kilmisten, County Wexford.
 Furlong, Andrew, Wexford.
 Furlong, Patrick, ditto.
 Furlong, Walter, Milltown, County Wexford.
 Furlong, Mathew, Enniscorthy.
 Furlong, James, ditto.
 Furlong, Patrick, Kilmore, County Wexford.
 Furlong, Patrick, Levittstown, ditto.
 Furlong, James, ditto.
 Furlong, Nicholas, Bolgerstown, ditto.
 Furnia, Mrs. J., Wexford.
- GADDERN, Joshua, Wexford.
 Gafney, Timothy, T.C., ditto.
 Gafney, Mrs. W., ditto.
 Gahan, Peter, Ross.
 Gainfort, Richard Ballyheigue, County Wexford.
 Galavan, James, Ross.
 Galavan, Laurence, ditto.
 Geary, Mrs., Arthurstown, County Wexford.
 Geraty, William, Provincial Hotel, Dublin.
 Gill, James, Clonmel.
 Godkin, William, Wexford.
 Goff, Abraham, Rector, Duncormuck, County Wexford.
 Goodall, Ebenezer, M.D., Wexford.
 Goodall, Nicholas, Moat Park, County Wexford.
 Goodall, John, Wilmont, ditto.
 Goodall, Richard, Enniscorthy.
 Goulden, A. B., London.
 Grace, James, Wexford.
 Graves, William, Ross.
 Green, Thomas, Tullibards, County Wexford.
 Green, John, P.O., Wexford.
 Green, Samuel, Captain, Ballyharty, County Wexford.
 Green, Mrs. S., ditto.
 Greene, Walter Clerke, Greenmount, ditto.
 Greene, John, Alderman, Wexford.
 Greene, Mrs. J., ditto.
 Guilfoile, John, Wexford.
 Guitou, Richard, Clonmel.
- HACKETT, J., Alderman, Clonmel.
 Hadden, John E., T.C., Wexford.
 Hadden, Mrs. J. E., ditto.
 Hadden, George, ditto.
 Hanrahan, P.R., ditto.
 Harper, Francis, Wexford.
 Harper, Miss, Selscar, ditto.
 Harper, Henry, R. N. C. G. officer, Kilmore, County Wexford.
 Hart, Thomas Alderman, Kilkenny.
 Harvey, William Kyle, County Wexford.
 Harvey, Mrs. W., ditto.
 Harvey, Percy L., Lonsdale, ditto.
 Harvey, John, Bargo Castle, ditto.
 Harvey, John, County Treasurer, Park House, ditto.
 Harvey, Joseph, solicitor, Wellington Cottage, ditto.
 Harvey, Thomas S., Waterford.
 Hatton, John Gordon, Sommerton, Wexford.
 Houghton, Joseph, Ferns, County Wexford.
 Hawkshaw, Travers R., Hillburne, ditto.
- Hayden, William C. C., Kilkenny.
 Hayes, Richard, Waterford.
 Hayes, Richard, Usher's Quay, Dublin.
 Hayes, Mrs., Ballyboggan, County Wexford.
 Hayes, Richard, Wexford.
 Hayes, Nicholas, builder, ditto.
 Hayes, Peter, ditto.
 Hayes, James, Ardavan, ditto.
 Heatley, Henry, Arran Cottage, County Wexford.
 Hewitson, Millet, M.D., Clonmel.
 Hickling, William, Inland Revenue, Wexford.
 Higginbotham, Joseph, Wexford.
 Hill, Charles H., St. John's, Enniscorthy.
 Hinson, Henry G., solicitor, Ross.
 Hinson, Robert Loftus, Hillview, County Wexford.
 Hinton, William P., 57, Capel-st., Dublin.
 Hinton, John, Wexford.
 Hobson, Rev. James, Sidmouth, Devon.
 Hogan, Jeremiah C. C., Wexford.
 Hogan, James T. C., ditto.
 Hogan, John F., Manchester.
 Hogan, Thomas, Clonmel.
 Home, G. Logan, Captain, Broom house, Edrom, Berwickshire.
 Home, Mrs. G. Logan, ditto.
 Hore, Walter, Harperstown, County Wexford.
 Hore, Herbert F., Polehore, ditto.
 Hore, Mrs. R., Wexford.
 Hore, Mrs. M., Liverpool.
 Hore, John, Wexford.
 Houghton, George Powell, Kilmannock, County Wexford.
 Howlett, M., M.D., J.P., Ross.
 Howlett, Miss, Wexford.
 Howlett, Martin J., ditto.
 Howlett, James E., Ross.
 Howlett, John, Kilkenny.
 Howlett, John, Ross.
 Howlin, James, Jun., Ballyhyland, County Wexford.
 Howlin, Patrick, Wexford.
 Hughes, Robert, Ely House, ditto.
 Hughes, Robert Wigram, ditto.
 Hughes, Frederic, Captain, ditto.
 Hughes, George W., Stramaer.
 Hughes, Miss, Mulgannon, Wexford.
 Hunt, Robert M., Castletown, County Wexford.
 Hurley, John, Gorey.
 Huson, Charles, Captain, Springfield, Wexford.
 Huson, Mrs. C., ditto.
 Huson, Benjamin, Broadway, County Wexford.
 Hyland, Frederick Jones, Wexford.
- INGHAM, Charles D., solicitor, Roseville, Wexford.
 Irwin, Joseph, ditto.
- JACKMAN, John, Ellerslie, Wexford.
 Jacob, George H., solicitor, ditto.
 Jacob, Charles, Bushville, County Wexford.

Jacob, Bostock, Ardcaven Cottage, County Wexford.
 Jacob, William B., Waterford.
 James, William, Grammar School, Bannow, County Wexford.
 Jeffares, William, Wexford.
 Jeffares, Sheppard, Barntown Cottage, County Wexford.
 Jeffares, Richard, Bridgetown, ditto.
 Jeffares, Joseph, Ross.
 Jeffares, William, Dublin.
 Jefferies, Thomas, Wexford.
 Johnson, Samuel, ditto.
 Jones, Henry H., Ballybrenan, County Wexford.
 Jones, Richard, Jun., ditto.
 Jones, John, Ballycanew, ditto.
 Jones, Richard, Ross.
 Jones, John, Tomduff, County Wexford.
 Jones, Henry, Clonmel.
 Jones, David, Abbey-street, Dublin.
 Joyce, Patrick, Killinnick, County Wexford.

KAVANAGH, James P. P., Ballymore, ditto.
 Kavanagh, Rev. James, Carlow College.
 Kavanagh, Arthur, T. C., Wexford.
 Kavanagh, Francis, ditto.
 Kavanagh, Laurence, ditto.
 Kavanagh, Mathew, Castlebridge, County Wexford.
 Kavanagh, Mathew, Clonevan, ditto.
 Kearney, John, St. John's, Liverpool.
 Keating, P. P. P., Piercestown, County Wexford.
 Keating, John, C.C., Murntown, ditto.
 Keating, James, C.C., Ballycullane, County Wexford.
 Keating, Nicholas, Wexford.
 Keating, James, Ballyhealy, County Wexford.
 Keating, Robert, Liverpool.
 Kehoe, James, Wexford.
 Kehoe, Joseph Ring, County Wexford.
 Keirnan, John, London.
 Kelly, Mrs. D. W., Manchester.
 Kelly, Richard, Rowestown, County Wexford.
 Kennedy, John, Enniscorthy.
 Kennedy, Martin, Clonmel.
 Kenny, Denis, C.C., Ballygarrett, County Wexford.
 Kenny, John, Clonmel.
 Kenselah, James Alderman, Wexford.
 Kenselah, Denis, ditto.
 Keogh, William, M.P., Athlone.
 King, Richard, Rector, Woodville, County Wexford.
 Kirwan, Rev. Laurence, President, S.P.C., Wexford.
 Kough, Edward, Ross.

LE HUNTE, Sir Francis, Artramount Cottage, County Wexford.
 Lacey, Patrick, Wexford.
 Lacy, James, F.P., Gorey.
 Lacy, Thomas, Carlow.
 Lambert, Henry, Carnagh, County Wexford.
 Lambert, Henry, Wexford.
 Lambert, James, ditto.

Lambert, Patrick, Wexford.
 Lambert, Thomas, ditto.
 Lambert, Patrick, Lady's Island, County Wexford.
 Lanigan, James, Kilkenny.
 Lawlor, Robert, Carlow.
 Leacy, Thomas, Wexford.
 Leacy, William, Foulkes's Mill, County Wexford.
 Leared, John, Wexford.
 Leared, Richard, ditto.
 Le Hunte, George, Artramount, County Wexford.
 Le Hunte, Mrs. G., ditto.
 Le Hunte, William A., Loughmalier, ditto.
 Leigh, Francis, Slon House, ditto.
 Leigh, Mrs. F., ditto.
 Lennon, James, Temperance Hotel, Liverpool.
 Lett, H. J., R.N., Lough, County Wexford.
 Lett, Charles, Hotel, Gorey.
 Lindsay, John, Ross.
 Little, George, solicitor, Cullentra, County Wexford.
 Little, John, Richmond Terrace, Wexford.
 Little, Simon, solicitor, Cullentra, ditto.
 Lloyd, John Thornville, County Wexford.
 Lodge, Denis, Upper Clifton-st., London.
 Long, Richard, M.D., Arthurstown, County Wexford.
 Luther, John, Clonmel.

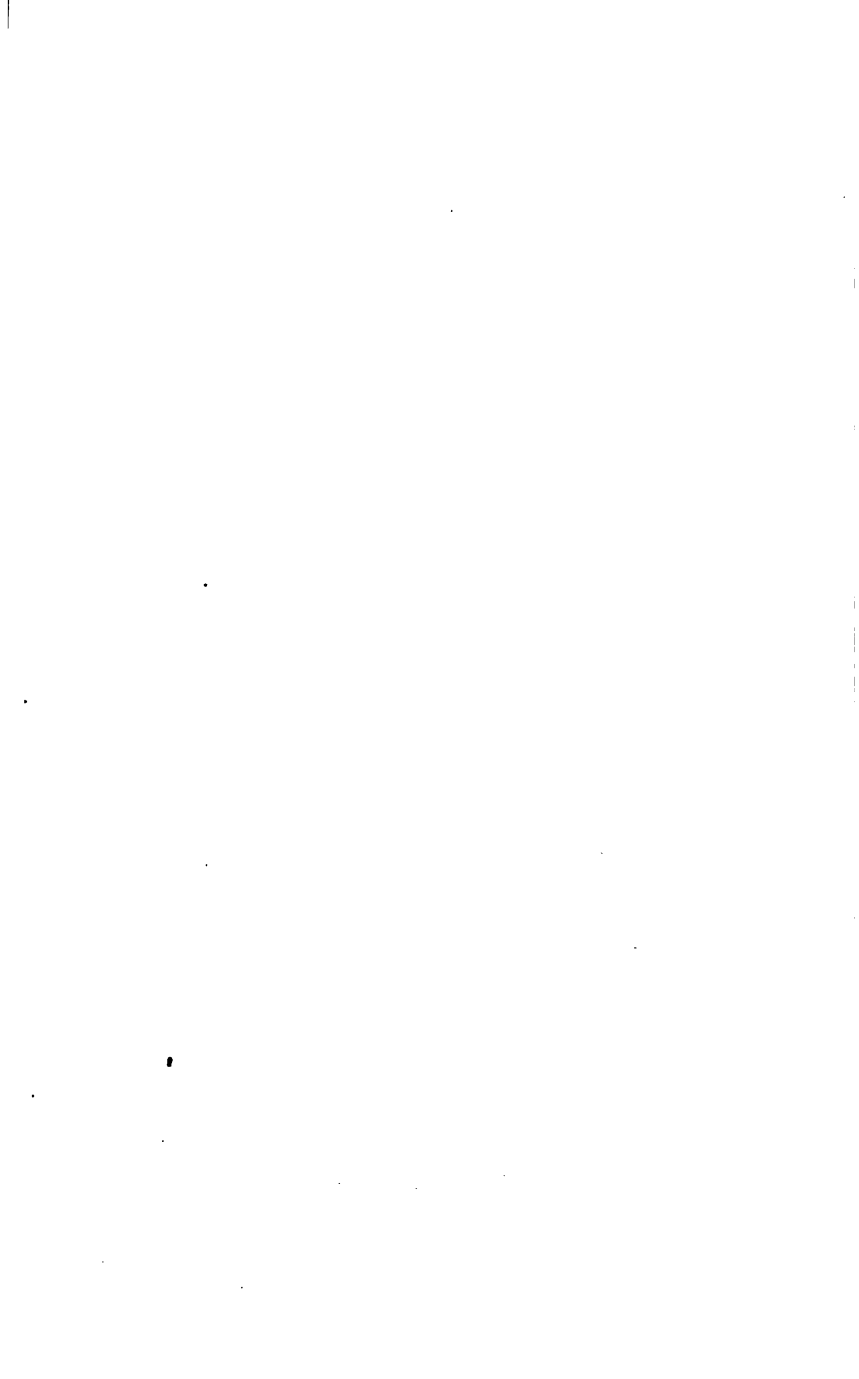
MACDONNELL, Nicholas, C.E., Wexford.
 Macgregor, Simon, ditto.
 Maconchy, G., Ardamine House, County Wexford.
 Maddock, John, Air-hill, Wexford.
 Maddock, Nicholas, ditto.
 Magee, John, D.D., Professor, Carlow College.
 Magee, Patrick, Ross.
 Magee, William, Manchester.
 Maher, John, C.C., Slieverne, County Kilkenny.
 Maher, Richard, Waterford.
 Maher, Patrick, Kilmore, County Wexford.
 Mahony, Peter, Wexford.
 Maloney, William, ditto.
 Martin, Miles, Enniscorthy.
 Marshall, Patrick, P.P., Clongeen, County Wexford.
 Matthews, George, Castle House, Wexford.
 Maxwell, Cornelius, Kilkenny.
 Mayler, P., P.P., Kilmore, County Wexford.
 Mayler, Mathew, ditto.
 McCabe, Patrick, Library, Wexford.
 McCann, Rev. Arthur S., St. Wilfred's, Manchester.
 McCann, Patrick, Wexford.
 McCarthy, John, Ross.
 McConvery, James, Liverpool.
 McCurtin, William, ditto.
 McDonnell, Richard, Wexford.
 McGuire, William, ditto.
 McHenry, James, Liverpool.
 McKenna, Patrick, Wexford.
 McLoughlin, Richard, ditto.
 McNamara, A., London.

- McPhillips, Francis, Liverpool.
 Meadows, Joseph, Carcur, Wexford.
 Meadows, Edward, jun., Kilmore, County Wexford.
 Meyler, B. E., P.P., Ferns, ditto.
 Meyler, James, Wexford.
 Meyler, Henry, Arklow.
 Mills, Andrew, Wexford.
 Mitchell, Thomas, House of Commons, London.
 Molloy, P., Ross.
 Molloy, Bryan, Waterloo-road, Liverpool.
 Moor, James C., Forthside, County Wexford.
 Moore, Philip, C.C., Rosbercon, County Kilkenny.
 Moore, John, Wexford.
 Moran, Rev. William, S.P.C., ditto.
 Moran, Philip, ditto.
 Moran, James, Enniscorthy.
 Morgan, H. K. Grogan, M.P., Johnstown Castle.
 Morgan, Mrs. H. K. Grogan, ditto.
 Mullin, P., Surgeon, Ross.
 Mulroney, William, Parliament-street, Dublin.
 Murphy, P. Dean, P.P. V.G., Barntown, County Wexford.
 Murphy, William, C.C., Wexford.
 Murphy, Peter, C.C., Ferns, County Wexford.
 Murphy, Nicholas, Wexford.
 Murphy, Mrs. P., ditto.
 Murphy, Patrick, ditto.
 Murphy, William, Liverpool.
 Murphy, Charles, ditto.
 Murphy, Thomas G., Wexford.
 Murphy, Nicholas, ditto.
 Murphy, Peter, ditto.
 Murphy, Miss, Ballyfane, County Wexford.
 Murphy, Laurence, Glynn, ditto.
 Murphy, Thomas, Alderman, Waterford.
 Murphy, Benjamin, Clonmel.
 Murphy, Patrick, Dublin.
 Murphy, Mathew, Roperstown, County Wexford.
 Murray, Daniel, Barntown, ditto.
- NAYLOR, Thomas, 12, Fleet-street, Dublin.
 Nesbitt, George, Hibernian Hotel, ditto.
 Neville, Patrick, C.C., Ross.
 Neville, P., ditto.
 Neville, Edward C., ditto.
 Newport, Charles, High-Sheriff, Waterford city.
 Nickerson, F., 6, Worship-street, London.
 Noble, W., ditto.
 Nunn, Edward Westby, Hill Castle, County Wexford.
 Nunn, John, Silverspring, ditto.
 Nunn, Mrs. J., ditto.
 Nunn, Lorenzo N., Barrister-at-Law, Gorey.
 Nunn, Richard M., M.R.C.S.L., Wexford.
 Nuzum, George, Hotel, Enniscorthy.
- O'BRIEN, Thomas E., Wexford.
 O'Brien, John, ditto.
 O'Brien, James, Liverpool.
 O'Callaghan, Miss Teresa, Cork.
- O'Cavanagh, Thomas E., Wexford.
 O'Connell, William, ditto.
 O'Connor, Richard, T.C., ditto.
 O'Connor, Stephen, Tagunnan, County Wexford.
 O'Connor, Mrs. J., Laurel Hill, Wexford.
 O'Dwyer, Joseph, Waterford.
 O'Farrell, Edward R., Faree, County Wexford.
 O'Flaherty, Thomas Aust., M.D., and Chir. London.
 O'Leary, Thomas, Wexford.
 O'Meara, Thomas, M.D., Carlow.
 O'Neill, Miss, Clonroche, County Wexford.
 O'Neill, P. H., Clonmel.
 O'Neill, William F., C.C., Tagoat, County Wexford.
 O'Neill, William, Lady's Island, ditto.
 O'Reilly, James, Shamrock Hotel, Dublin.
 O'Rourke, P., M.D., Enniscorthy.
- PARLE, James, C.C., Ballymurn, County Wexford.
 Pender, John A., Waterford.
 Perceval, Miss, Hayestown, County Wexford.
 Perrott, S. T., Janeville, ditto.
 Pettigrew, James, Wexford.
 Pettitt, William, Alderman, ditto.
 Phelan, Pierce, Alderman, Waterford.
 Phillips, Thomas, London.
 Pierce, Patrick, Piercestown, County Wexford.
 Pierce, Richard, Architect, Tenacre, ditto.
 Pierse, James, Wexford.
 Pigott, George P., Slevoy, County Wexford.
 Pitt, John, Wexford.
 Power, James, Edermine, County Wexford.
 Power, Mrs. J., ditto.
 Power, John, Waterford.
 Power, Edmond, Clonmel.
 Power, Richard, Wexford.
 Power, James, Carrick, County Wexford.
 Pounder, Hercules, Enniscorthy.
 Pounder, William, ditto.
 Pounds, James, Ross.
 Porter, Benjamin, M.D., Killena Park, County Wexford.
 Prendergast, Francis, P.P., Davidstown, County Wexford.
 Prendergast, Thomas, Wexford.
 Prendergast, James, ditto.
 Prendergast, John, Ballycogley, County Wexford.
 Prendergast, John, solicitor, Clonmel.
 Preston, Alexander, solicitor, Sallyville, Enniscorthy.
 Price, Thomas, Dublin-street, Carlow.
 Proctor, George A. Clerke, Wexford.
 Purcell, Thomas, T.C., Waterford.
- QUILL, Thomas, Wexford.
 Quinn, Patrick, Alderman, Clonmel.
 Quinn, James, St. John's, Liverpool.
- RACK, Michael, Wexford.
 Rainor, James, Taghmon, County Wexford.
 Ram, Stephen, Ramsfort, Gorey.
 Reade, James, Liverpool.

Reardon, Rev. D. F., Cork.
 Redmond, John E., Newtown Cottage,
 County Wexford.
 Redmond, Mrs. J. E., ditto.
 Redmond, Thomas, Lancaster House, Wex-
 ford.
 Redmond, James, ditto.
 Redmond, James, Clohamon, County Wex-
 ford.
 Redmond, J. M., Gorey.
 Redmond, James P., Enniscorthy.
 Redmond, Cornelius, "News," Waterford.
 Reeves, Charles S., Wexford.
 Reeves, Mrs. C. S., ditto.
 Reeves, Miss, ditto.
 Reid, P. Kendal, Waterford.
 Renwick, Richard W., Wexford.
 Richards, Thomas Wilmsdorff, Rathaspeck
 House, County Wexford.
 Richards, George, Prebendary, Coolstuffle,
 ditto.
 Richards, John, Sea View Cottage, ditto.
 Richards, S. A., Ardamine House, ditto.
 Richards, John F., Grange, ditto.
 Richards, James, Youngstown, ditto.
 Richards, John, Churchtown, ditto.
 Richards, James, Dublin.
 Rickards, James Ward, Wexford.
 Rickman, W. C., Polehore, County Wex-
 ford.
 Roach, Edmond, Wexford.
 Roache, Robert, Blackhall, County Wex-
 ford.
 Roberts, George C., Enniscorthy.
 Roberts, G. Churchill, Manchester.
 Robinson, David, Wexford.
 Robinson, John, Bryanstown, County
 Wexford.
 Roche, James, P.P., Wexford.
 Roche, Thomas, C.C., Enniscorthy.
 Roche, Thomas, T.C., Wexford.
 Roche, Patrick, ditto.
 Roche, John E., Clerk of the Crown, ditto.
 Roche, James, ditto.
 Roche, James, builder, ditto.
 Roche, Patrick, Ballygoman, County
 Wexford.
 Roche, Mrs., Ferns, ditto.
 Roche, John, Garrylough, ditto.
 Roche, John, London.
 Roche, J. and W., Ross.
 Roche, James, Waterford.
 Roche, Patrick, Liverpool.
 Roche, John, ditto.
 Rochford, Gregory, Wexford.
 Rofe, H. C. E., professor, &c., Birmingham.
 Roice, Clement, Churchtown, County
 Wexford.
 Rooke, Mrs., Ely House, Wexford.
 Rossiter, William, T., ditto.
 Rossiter, John, Ballina, County Wexford.
 Rossiter, Thomas, M.D., Ross.
 Rowe, John, Ballycross, County Wexford.
 Rowe, Thomas H., Wexford.
 Rowe, Mathew, Crossabeg, County Wex-
 ford.
 Rowe, Pierce R., Ballyraheen, ditto.
 Rowe, Francis John, Stephenstown, ditto.
 Rowe, Mrs. N., Fingall Cottage, Clontarf.

Ryan, Rudolphus, W., T.C., Rockfield,
 Wexford.
 Ryan, Mrs. R. W., ditto.
 Ryan, E., Enniscorthy.
 Ryan, Wm. W., Ross.
 Ryan, Pierce, Davidstown, County Wex-
 ford.
 Ryan, Patrick, M.D., Waterford.
 Ryan, William, solicitor, Clonmel.
 STOPFORD, Lord Viscount, Seafeld, Gorey.
 Stopford, Lady, ditto.
 Sadler, John, M.P., Carlow.
 Savage, Richard, Manchester.
 Scallan, John, C.C., Galbally County
 Wexford.
 Scallan, David, Wexford.
 Scallan, Thomas, ditto.
 Scallan, James, Clonard, ditto.
 Scallan, Nicholas, St. Iberius, County
 Wexford.
 Scully, Francis, M.P., Tipperary
 Scully, Thomas, M.D., Clonmel.
 Sealy, John, Dublin.
 Shaw, Richard, Wexford.
 Shanahan, Ambrose, Hotel, Ross.
 Sheffield, John, Wexford.
 Shepard, John, Hilltown, County Wexford.
 Sherlock, John B., Ross.
 Shortall, Michael, Castlebridge, County
 Wexford.
 Shudall, John, Duncormick, ditto.
 Sibbald, William, Clonmel.
 Sinnott, James, P.P., Litter, County
 Wexford.
 Sinnott, Richard, T.C., Wexford.
 Sinnott, Rev. John, S.P.C., ditto.
 Sinnott, Edmond Cottage, County Wex-
 ford.
 Sinnott, James, Wexford.
 Sinnott, John, ditto.
 Sinnott, John, ditto.
 Sinnott, Nicholas, ditto.
 Sinnott, Patrick, Tagcoat, County Wex-
 ford.
 Sinnott, Peter, Tacumshane, ditto.
 Sinnott, Thomas, Enniscorthy.
 Sinnott, Nicholas J., ditto.
 Slaney, Mathew, Alderman, Waterford.
 Sleep, Thomas, Worship-street, London.
 Smyth, George, Liverpool.
 Sparrow, Robert, Wexford.
 Sparrow, Nathaniel, jun., do.
 Sparrow, Jacob, Sackville-street, Dublin.
 Sparrow, Joseph, Wexford.
 Sparrow, J. M., Clonmel.
 Stafford, Robert, Mayor, Wexford.
 Stafford, Thomas, P.P., Castlebridge,
 County Wexford.
 Stafford, John, Wexford.
 Stafford, John, ditto.
 Stafford, Mrs. J., ditto.
 Stafford, Matthew, Drinagh, County
 Wexford.
 Stafford, James, Orrestown, ditto.
 Stafford, Stephen B., Ballymore, ditto.
 Stafford, Walter, Rathangan, ditto.
 Stafford, John, Ballygrangans, ditto.
 Stevens, W., Finsbury, London.

- Stokes, Henry G., Rector Ardcolm, County Wexford.
 Stuart, Percival, Carlow.
 Stuart, Mrs. A. O., ditto.
 Sutcliffe, John, Ross.
 Sutton, Michael J., ditto.
 Swan, R. W., Barrister-at-Law, Dublin.
 Sweetman, Laurence, Ballymackesy, County Wexford.
 Sweetman, Roger, Bannow, ditto.
 Sweny, Henry Cope, Gardiner's Place, Dublin.
 Synnott, Peter, T. C., Wexford.
 THACKABERRY, George, Wexford.
 Talbot, John H., M.P., Ballytrent, County Wexford.
 Talbot, Mrs. J. H., ditto.
 Talbot, George, Captain, Maryville, Ross.
 Talbot, Mathew E., C.E., Ferrybank, Wexford.
 Tanner, Samuel, Greenfield, County Wexford.
 Tanner, Mrs., Wexford.
 Taylor, Christopher, ditto.
 Tennant, Nicholas, ditto.
 Ternan, Miss Fanny, Birmingham.
 Thacker, Alexander, Killowen, County Wexford.
 Thunder, Henry, Ballyseskin, ditto.
 Tierney, Robert, Finsbury, London.
 Timpson, Mrs. W., Wexford.
 Toole, William, Captain, Curracloe, County Wexford.
 Torney, John, Liverpool.
 Townsend, T. Clerke, Rosbercon, County Kilkenny.
 Tucker, William J., Wexford.
 Turner, Edward, Newfort, County Wexford.
 Turner, William T., Ross.
 USHER, John Stokestown, County Wexford.
 VICARY, Benjamin, jun., solicitor, Wexford.
 WIGRAM, the Right Hon. Sir James, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, Portland Place, London.
 Wadding, William, Killurin, County Wexford.
 Waddy, John, M.D., Clougheast Castle, ditto.
 Waddy, Joseph Swan, Solicitor, T.C., Wexford.
 Waddy, Cadwallader F., Suffolk-st., Pall Mall, London.
 Waddy, Percy S., M.D., Broadway, County Wexford.
 Walker, Paul, Killowen, ditto.
 Walker, William, Wexford.
 Wall, John, ditto.
 Wall, Philip, Ballyfane, County Wexford.
 Walpole, William, T.C., Wexford.
 Walsh, John, Mayor-elect, ditto.
 Walsh, James, P.P., Ross.
 Walsh, Michael, P.P., Rosebercon, County Kilkenny.
 Walsh, Patrick, P.P., Lady's Island, County Wexford.
 Walsh, Nicholas, C.C., Enniscorthy.
 Walsh, Richard, Alderman, Wexford.
 Walsh, Mathew, Dublin.
 Walsh, Jasper M., Wexford.
 Walsh, Patrick, ditto.
 Walsh, Michael, ditto.
 Walsh, William, Killlane, County Wexford.
 Walsh, James, Walshestown, ditto.
 Walsh, Rev. J., St. Mary's, Moorfields, London.
 Walsh, Thomas, Coolcull, County Wexford.
 Walsh, John, Mayglass, ditto.
 Walsh, Richard, Waterford.
 Walsh, John, Club House, Kilkenny.
 Walshe, James, D.D., President Carlow College.
 Walters, Lorenzo John, Clohass, County Wexford.
 Ward, Mrs., Bormont, ditto.
 Waters, Francis, St. John's, Liverpool.
 Webster, Thomas, Moneycross, County Wexford.
 Weems, R., 80, Great George-street, Westminster.
 West, John, Wexford.
 Wheelock, Charles, Tullibards, County Wexford.
 Whelan, Denis, Wexford.
 White, Laurence, Esmonde Newlands, County Wexford.
 White, William, Wexford.
 White, John Low, Crosscales, County Wexford.
 White, Christopher, Liverpool.
 Whitmore, William, Club House, Carlow.
 Whitney John E., Beaufield School, County Wexford.
 Whitney, William, Wexford.
 Whitty, James, Liverpool.
 Whitty, W., Castle-street, ditto.
 Wickham, James, Wexford.
 Wigram, William, Grosvenor-square, London.
 Wigram, Henry, Brooke-street, ditto.
 Wilde, James, 3, Worship-street, ditto.
 Williams, John, Clements-Mene, ditto.
 Williams, Richard A., Enniscorthy.
 Willis, Thomas, Wexford.
 Wilkinson, Thomas, Enniscorthy.
 Wilson, Cadwallader, Dublin.
 Windross, George, Wexford.
 Woodroffe, H. P., solicitor, Dublin.
 Wright, Nathan, Wexford.
 Wynne, Mrs., Ardcanrisk, County Wexford.
 YOUNG, J. E. Captain, Kilmore, County Wexford.





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